FRIDAY
November 28, 2025

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
20 Pages ₹ 6.00

THE HINDU

www.thehindu.com

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

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RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945

Vol. 56 • No. 281

Printed at » Chennai » Coimbatore » Bengaluru » Hyderabad » Madurai » Noida » Visakhapatnam » Thiruvananthapuram » Kochi » Vijayawada » Mangaluru » Tiruchirapalli » Kolkata » Hubballi » Mohali » Malappuram » Mumbai » Lucknow » Cuttack » Patna

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Woman lodges sexual abuse plaint with CM

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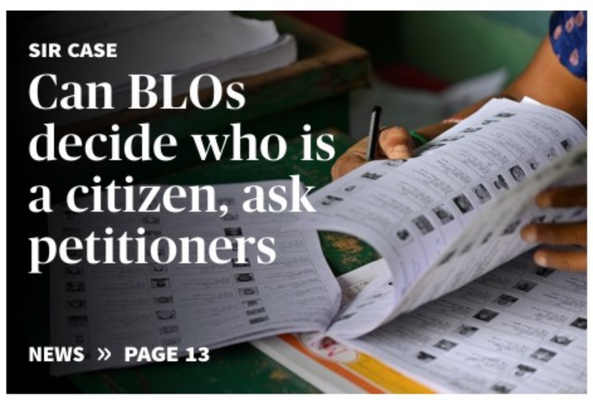

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STRIKING IT RICH

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IMF gives 'C' grade for India's national accounts statistics

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

The International Monetary Fund's annual review has given India's national accounts statistics – including Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and Gross Value Added (GVA) – a grade of 'C', the second-lowest rating.

According to the IMF, this grade means the data available "have some shortcomings that somewhat hamper surveillance". This is of particular significance as the government will release the national accounts data for Q2 of this financial year on Friday.

Grade 'C' means the available data have shortcomings that hamper surveillance. REUTERS

Weaknesses cited

"National accounts data are available at adequate frequency and timeliness and provide broadly adequate granularity," the IMF noted in its annual Article IV assessment of India's economic framework. "However, some methodological weaknesses somewhat hamper surveillance and warrant an overall sectoral rating for the national accounts of C." Overall, across all data categories, India has received grade 'B'. There are four grades in total: A, B, C and D.

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SC asks govt. to regulate user content on Internet

Court suggests 'impartial and autonomous authority' to vet content; it says that like free speech, rights of victims of online abuse have to be protected, and wants 'preventive mechanisms' in place

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday asked the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to work on guidelines for user-generated content to protect innocents from becoming victims of obscene, even perverse, "anti-national" or personally damaging online content.

The top court considered the idea of an "impartial and autonomous authority", neither bound to private broadcasters nor the government, to vet "prima facie permissible" content.

A Bench of Chief Justice of India Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi said user-generated content, potentially disastrous to reputations or even having "adult content", go viral even before social media intermediaries could take them down.

> Dissent is part of democracy. Every day people write against the government. But the problem arises when you suddenly put something on YouTube and there are millions and millions who are victimised
>
> **JUSTICE SURYA KANT**
> Chief Justice of India

Suggestion on Aadhaar

At one point, referring to the easy access to uncurated material online, the court said a few seconds of 'adult content' warning was not enough. It suggested further checks such as sharing Aadhaar details to verify the age of users.

The Chief Justice found it "very strange" the phenomenon that users could create their own online channels and still be not accountable to anyone. "Is there no sense of responsibility?" he asked.

The court clarified that it did not intend to have the proposed guidelines for user-generated content "tinker" with free speech. Though the right was subject to reasonable regulation under Article 19(2) of the Constitution, it was nevertheless to be respected and protected. However, misuse of online speech has exposed millions of innocent people to abuse. They too have a right to be protected, it reasoned.

'Millions victimised'

"Dissent is part of democracy. Every day people write against the government. But the problem arises when you suddenly put something on YouTube and there are millions and millions who are victimised. They do not have a voice. They do not have a platform, and by the time they rush to court, the damage is done," Chief Justice Kant said.

CONTINUED ON
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CM, Shivakumar use wordplay and pun to target each other

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The intensifying power tussle between Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and his deputy D.K. Shivakumar moved to the social media on Thursday, with both exchanging cryptic and coded messages on the platform X, targeting each other.

In what seemed like a veiled reference to the so-called power-sharing agreement struck in 2023 and a dig at the Chief Minister and senior leaders of the party, Mr. Shivakumar said on X, "Word power is world power." He further said, "Keeping one's word is the greatest strength in the world... The biggest force in the world was to keep one's word... Be it a judge, president, or anyone else, including myself, everyone has to walk the talk. Word power is world power." He, however, later refused to acknowledge the post.

Responding to it with a play of words, Mr. Siddaramaiah said hours later on X, "A Word is not power unless it betters the world for the people."

Listing out his achievements in the previous (2013-2018) and the present terms, he named the five guarantees delivered by him in the current tenure and other social welfare schemes implemented through his career.

"We transformed our guarantees into action; not in words, but on the ground," he said. "Our Word to Karnataka is not a slogan, it means the World to us." These developments come even as the Congress high command is set to summon both the leaders to New Delhi to put an end to the crisis.

RELATED REPORTS
» PAGE 8

Pricking cold

Misty morning: Vehicles moving along the banks of Dal Lake in Srinagar on Thursday. The region is in the grip of a severe cold wave, with temperatures plunging well below the freezing point, and mornings marked by icy winds and frost-covered landscapes. IMRAN NISSAR

NEARBY

Norms issued for app-based aggregators

BENGALURU
In a move aimed at improving safety of gig workers and the general public, The police have issued a detailed set of guidelines to all app-based service aggregators. The list includes food delivery, ride-hailing, and hyperlocal logistics platforms. The directive comes amid growing concerns over crimes involving gig workers (by and against them), and loopholes in safety mechanisms. » PAGE 5

METROPLUS » PAGE 7

Government announces OTS for pending water bills in city

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Offering a 100 % rebate on interest, penalty and other fees levied on the principal, the State government on Thursday announced a One Time Settlement (OTS) scheme for those who have defaulted on payment of water bills to the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB). The total dues amount to ₹701 crore.

According to Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil, a three-month window would be provided to the defaulters to clear their dues. Of the total ₹701 crore, about ₹439 crore is principal while ₹262 crore has accumulated as interest, penalty and other fees. The OTS was announced by relaxing the Bangalore Water Supply Regulations, 1965. "The three-month window will come into effect from the date of the order. The OTS is being announced to ensure faster recovery," he said.

The dues to BWSSB from domestic and comercial users amount to ₹701 crore. A three-month window would be provided to defaulters to clear their dues

The erstwhile Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) had also given an OTS for property tax dues in 2024-25. The scheme that was also initially opened for three months was extended multiple times. While BBMP did collect a significant chunk of its arrears, many defaulters did not use the scheme as well.

Mr. Patil said that the defaulters include those who have domestic as well as commercial connections. However, the BWSSB also has significant arrears from various government institutes and departments as well. The Cabinet has directed BWSSB to make book adjustments for dues from government departments and bodies.

The Cabinet also approved ₹100 crore for BSWML to implement the Operation and Maintenance of landfill sites works.

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A BG-BGE

Watching the Indian wheels come off is chastening

They were unstoppable in their backyard, using their familiarity with the conditions and their plethora of accomplished superstars to repel the occasional spirited challenge

RITU RAJ KONWAR

R. Kaushik
GUWAHATI

The first cracks in a magnificent edifice constructed with passion and care and skill and ruthless efficiency by a couple of generations of players over a period of a dozen years started to surface some 12 and a half months back. By November 2025, those cracks mushroomed into gaping holes, bringing down the structure completely and leaving the aura of Indian home invincibility in Test cricket in complete ruins.

There was a time when even the mightiest of sides trembled at the prospect of flying out to India for red-ball showdowns. India were formidable everywhere in the world, but particularly unstoppable in their backyard, using their familiarity with the unique conditions and their plethora of accomplished superstars to repel the occasional spirited challenge with an iron hand. A 1-2 defeat at the hands of Alastair Cook's England in December 2012 was the catalyst for an extraordinary run during which they lost just four Tests from the beginning of 2013 to nearly the end of 2024. Then, Tom Latham and New Zealand came riding on optimism more than conviction, were pleasantly surprised at the ease with which India surrendered their hegemony and inadvertently set the template that Temba Bavuma's World Test Champions finetuned over the last fortnight in splendid style.

A quarter of a century after Hansie Cronje led South Africa to what hitherto was their only series victory in India, Bavuma's brave band recreated history with another 2-0 sweep that has sent the Indian cricket ecosystem to the throes of panic. All good things in life must come to an end and the cyclical nature of competitive sport dictates that such an eventuality would transpire at some stage, but confronted with the harsh reality check that is now hanging around their collective necks like a giant millstone, Indian Test cricket finds itself at a crossroads.

The crisis has been exacerbated by a series of poor decisions that haven't helped the cause. While it is true that India are in a transitional phase following the retirements in the last 11 months of three of their long-serving virtuosos, the fact that they haven't been able to summon their competitive instincts and pride in their own patch has been particularly disappointing.

Ideal build-up

There is no shame in admitting that South Africa came better prepared, armed with not just a terrific pace attack - severely weakened once Kagiso Rabada was ruled out of both matches with a rib injury - but also two wonderful, experienced spinners and batters who were willing to put in the hard yards. South Africa's preparations entailed a tour of Pakistan, which in many ways proved to be the ideal build-up. After a big loss in the opening Test, the visitors came back strongly to score a commanding victory in the next in Islamabad, carrying confidence and momentum across the border. India, by contrast, embarked on a meaningless white-ball misadventure to Australia in the gap between Test series at home against West Indies and South Africa.

Shubman Gill, hastily made the One-Day International skipper to go with his T20I vice-captaincy, only landed in Kolkata some three days before the first Test, the hectic activities of the past five months surely a contributory factor to the neck spasms that restricted his batting in the first Test to three deliveries and kept him out of the second in Guwahati. Without their captain and their best batter since the tour of England in the summer, India rolled over without a fight; after four ill-fated innings on a snake-pit at the Eden Gardens and an excellent cricket strip in Guwahati's debut as a Test venue, only two batters topped 100 runs for the series where South Africa had seven such individuals.

India were outbatted, yes, but they were also outbowled, out-fielded and out-strategised consistently, the lessons that ought to have been learned from the whitewash against New Zealand completely ignored. Gautam Gambhir, the beleaguered head coach, sought to distance the New Zealand loss from the South African implosion, seeking to take refuge in the 'transition' tack that he had assiduously avoided until the shattering 408-run defeat in Guwahati on Wednesday.

There had been no sign of transition being a stumbling block during the honourable 2-2 stalemate in England over the summer, or during the 2-0 conquest of West Indies in Ahmedabad and New Delhi last month. For that to be used as a factor to explain away the abject surrender to the Proteas seems a little convenient, an excuse that truly hasn't resonated with India's disillusioned fans whose collective disappointment is gradually turning into ire.

During their wonderful run when they found ways and means to overcome occasional moments of crises, such as against Australia in 2017, and England in 2021 and 2024 when they lost the first Test of each of the three series before storming back with fearsome intent, India wore a settled look, with changes minimal and strategic rather than based on a wing and a prayer.

Under Virat Kohli, even when there was the odd surprise inclusion or shock omission, one could understand the horses-for-courses approach, even if one didn't always agree with it. Now, specialists seem to be rapidly going out the window. There is a marked slant towards 'all-rounders', genuine and hopeful, which has proved to be a self-destructive pathway.

In Kolkata and Guwahati, India had only six specialists – K.L. Rahul, Yashashvi Jaiswal, Kuldeep Yadav, Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Siraj in both games, with Sai Sudharsan replacing Gill for the second Test – and five all-rounders of varying hues. Among them were two wicketkeepers, one of them (Dhurv Jurel) playing as a batter, and a multitude of 'multi-faceted' players – Ravindra Jadeja and Washington Sundar (both matches), and Axar Patel in Kolkata and Nitish Kumar in Guwahati. Axar was one of four spinners at Eden Gardens in his first Test in 18 months, which meant Washington got to bowl just one over, while Nitish's medium-pace was used sparingly in Guwahati, which begged the question if a specialist batter wouldn't have been a more prudent option.

Constant reshuffling

There have been constant reshuffles to the batting order, with the pieces moved around willy-nilly. Gambhir pointed to the lack of Test experience – 'Several of the batters have played less than 15 Tests' – and said players were learning on the job, in a manner of speaking. Test cricket cannot be a finishing school, it can't be used as an experimental stage. There is no little virtue in plumping for those who have come through the domestic grind, those who have stacked up 70 and 80 and 90 First Class appearances and produced the runs that ought to count for something. India could have turned to Karun Nair, Sarfaraz Khan, even Ruturaj Gaikwad, to bolster their tottering middle-order, especially once Gill was a doubt for the second Test. But by continuing to place their eggs in the all-rounder basket, they were playing themselves into a hole, clambering out of which will take some doing.

India don't play a Test match till next August and their next home assignment, a five-Test series against Australia, isn't until early 2027. They have nine Tests left in the league phase of the current cycle of the World Test Championship and, barring a miracle, they will again witness the final from the confines of their living room, so far behind have they fallen in the race midway through their campaign following the unexpected debacle against the Proteas.

The time between now and August, when they travel to Sri Lanka after a nine-year hiatus, must be used judiciously. There isn't too much domestic red-ball cricket lined up, just the last two league rounds of the Ranji Trophy from January, followed by the knockouts, which doesn't help, but in any case, domestic First Class runs don't seem to count for a great deal, so that shouldn't come as a deterrent.

Gambhir might have used white-ball successes (the Champions Trophy and T20 Asia Cup titles) to ward off questions about whether he is still the right man for the Test job, but the magnitude of the woes that confront him will not be lost on the feisty former opener who must be feeling helpless and frustrated at the lack of fight and application of his wards. It is incumbent upon him and chief selector Ajit Agarkar to clear a mess that they have helped create.

What the roadmap must be will remain a topic of conjecture and debate, but there needs to be a definitive, structured pathway to redemption in which the expertise of V.V.S. Laxman, the head of the Centre of Excellence, must also be tapped into. Gambhir and Agarkar can no longer afford to function in a vacuum; much damage has already been done to India's standing as a Test behemoth and while the (forced?) retirements of Kohli, Rohit Sharma and R. Ashwin have doubtlessly contributed to this debacle because such experience and class can't be replaced overnight, that can't be the sole prop on which the tottering structure can be wished away any longer.

Transparency and messaging, among the strongest suits of previous leadership groups, must resurface because the worst environment in which players can be put is when uncertainty and insecurity go hand in glove.

They are hardly the ideal precursors to consistency in performances, but the players must also figure out if they are committed to Test cricket, or are merely content paying lip service to the five-day game. Some of the shot-making over the last two weeks has been preposterous; there has been little respect for either the game situation or the nature of the surface and the quality of the opposition bowling, which can be construed as a lack of investment in a format still considered the most challenging and rewarding even though the shorter limited-overs versions have taken over as the in-things.

South Africa played superb cricket, let's not forget, and their 2-0 sweep didn't come about only because of Indian failings. But to watch the Indian wheels come off so dramatically was chastening, humbling, painful almost. Simon Harmer, the off-spinner who was the Player-of-the-Series for his 17 scalps, insisted that a 'hurting' India will come back stronger. Do his Indian counterparts entertain the same conviction?

THE GIST

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- Transparency and messaging, among the strongest suits of previous leadership groups, must resurface because the worst environment in which players can be put is when uncertainty and insecurity go hand in glove

BMTC imposes penalties of ₹25 cr. on electric bus operators

The step comes amid rising safety concerns; electric buses have been involved in several accidents in recent months

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) has imposed penalties of ₹25 crore on electric bus operators over the past two years, following recurring safety lapses, technical failures, and violations of contractual obligations.

Four private companies currently operate around 1,500 electric buses under the Gross Cost Contract (GCC) model. Speaking to *The Hindu,* Minister for Transport Ramalinga Reddy said that the fines were a result of 'continued non-compliance' with operational standards and repeated incidents involving the BMTC's electric fleet.

"More than ₹25 crore in penalties has been levied on four private companies for failing to meet contractual performance requirements," he said. The BMTC's electric buses have been involved in several accidents in recent months. Officials said the vehicles frequently suffer from battery malfunctions and failures in key electronic systems, including infotainment units, air-conditioning components, braking and suspension technologies. In numerous cases, buses stalled in the middle of the road, disrupting traffic and posing safety risks to passengers and motorists. A senior BMTC official noted that poor maintenance and inadequate technical support from operators were among the primary reasons for frequent service interruptions.

The vehicles frequently suffer from battery malfunctions and failures in key electronic systems, including infotainment units, air-conditioning components, braking and suspension technologies, say officials. K. MURALI KUMAR

Rise in accidents

In response to the rise in accidents, the BMTC has begun training electric bus drivers internally. Drivers employed by private operators are now required to undergo a three-day programme at the BMTC Training Centre in Vaddarahalli. "The course includes lessons on stress management, health awareness, safe driving techniques, traffic rules, and guidelines for operating EVs in both rainy and dry conditions. So far, 150 drivers have completed the training," he said.

Meanwhile, Mr. Reddy said the BMTC recently held a meeting with the four private operators to flag widespread concerns, including rapidly depleting batteries, deployment of inadequately trained drivers, inconsistent driver management, and delays in salary payments.

"Strict instructions have been issued to ensure that these issues do not recur. We have also asked operators to increase the number of trained drivers, and the response has been positive," he said.

K-RIDE set to get full-time Managing Director after 3 years

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Rail Infrastructure Development Company (Karnataka) Limited (K-RIDE) is finally set to have a permanent Managing Director after operating under interim leadership for close to three years.

According to sources, Lakshman Singh, a 1996-batch officer from the Indian Railway Service of Engineers, is expected to be appointed as the full-time MD anytime soon. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC), under the Union Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, cleared the Railway Ministry's proposal for his posting on November 25.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, officials familiar with the development said, "A formal notification confirming his appointment could be released shortly by the Railway Ministry." Mr. Singh is likely to take over the reins of the K-RIDE, the joint venture agency responsible for delivering the much-delayed Bengaluru Suburban Railway Project (BSRP).

Lakshman Singh

'Challenging work'

Earlier in June, the K-RIDE advertised the MD post, inviting applications from officers belonging to Central Group 'A' services for a deputation tenure of three years. A senior official told *The Hindu* that constructing suburban rail corridors alongside existing, high-speed railway lines demands specialised technical knowledge and practical engineering experience.

"Developing new tracks in such complex, high-risk zones is extremely challenging. A seasoned railway technocrat will be better positioned to resolve design issues, manage safety concerns, and accelerate execution," the official added.

The K-RIDE is jointly owned by the Karnataka government and the Ministry of Railways, with the State holding a majority 51% share.

The State government has traditionally preferred deputing senior IAS officers from its cadre to head the organisation. However, several of these officers lacked in-depth familiarity with railway systems and operational engineering, leading to concerns about project delays and decision-making bottlenecks.

Slow progress

The Managing Director's post has remained vacant since the transfer of Amit Garg in August 2022. During this period, senior IAS officials, including Gaurav Gupta and N. Manjula, served as interim heads, while in August 2025, Govinda Reddy was appointed as the in-charge MD.

The BSRP covers 149.35 km across four major corridors, Sampige (KSR Bengaluru-Devanahalli), Mallige (Benniganahalli-Chikkabanavara), Parijaata (Kengeri-Whitefield), and Kanaka (Heelalige-Rajanukunte). Among these, only the Mallige line (Corridor-2) has seen measurable progress, with construction still below the 30% mark.

L&T's exit

The decision to bring in a full-time MD comes at a sensitive phase for the project. Recently, Larsen & Toubro (L&T) terminated two major civil contracts pertaining to Corridor-2 and Corridor-4. The K-RIDE has accused the contractor of violating key terms of the agreement, a development that has added new uncertainties to a project already struggling with delays and engineering hurdles.

Mr. Singh is currently serving in the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) as Chief General Manager (Civil), a role he took up in December 2023.

He has previously worked as Additional Divisional Railway Manager, Bengaluru, and as Chief Engineer in South Western Railway.

Flower show draws 33,500 visitors on day 1

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Department of Horticulture on Thursday inaugurated the flower show at Cubbon Park, introducing a floral display modelled on the popular annual Lalbagh Flower Show.

A total of 33,500 people visited the show on its opening day, including 15,000 adults and 18,500 children. The department generated ₹2.24 lakh and expects overall footfall to cross two lakh over the course of the event. The show features 50 major floral displays including tigers, leopards, elephants, butterflies, fruit sculptures, and a Hampi chariot.

(From left): Floral display of the famous Hampi Chariot; visitors looking at the collections of flowering plants; floral display of Dasara elephants; visitors clicking pictures of a floral butterfly; a girl posing with the flower-decked deer, during the flower show at Cubbon Park in Bengaluru on Thursday. K. MURALI KUMAR

Institutions ordered to report stray dog presence, submit action plan

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) has issued notices across its five corporations directing government and private institutions to furnish detailed information on stray dogs present on their premises, in line with a recent Supreme Court order.

The directive follows the Supreme Court's instructions, which require municipal bodies to identify stray dogs on institutional premises, relocate them safely to shelters, and submit an affidavit of compliance within eight weeks. As per the order, all schools, colleges, universities, coaching centres, hospitals, health centres, sports complexes, bus stands, depots, inter-State bus terminals, and railway stations have been asked to provide the number of stray dogs currently on their premises and measures taken to prevent re-entry of stray dogs into the institution.

"These institutions should appointment a nodal officer who will be responsible for waste management, maintaining cleanliness, preventing dog re-entry, and coordinating with the municipal corporation. The officer's name and contact number must also be displayed on the premises," the GBA said, further noting on the deployment of security personnel round the clock in sports complexes and stadiums to prevent stray dog entry.

The GBA said that the Animal Husbandry Department would also identify designated feeding spots for stray dogs in the GBA limits. Feeding at any location outside these approved sites would be considered a violation of the Supreme Court order, and disciplinary action may follow. Citizens can also report illegal feeding, dog-bite incidents, or instances of stray dog abuse through helpline-1533 or rabies helpline: 63648 93322.

8-year-old dies amid suspected water contamination at a city apartment

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

An eight-year-old boy, a resident of the Prestige Falcon City apartment off Kanakapura Road in south Bengaluru, died on Thursday, three days after being admitted due to prolonged diarrhoea.

Residents of the apartment, who have been falling ill regularly and believe water contamination is behind their deteriorating health, are alleging the same cause for the child's death.

However, a senior official from the Bengaluru South City Corporation told *The Hindu* that the child had been suffering from chronic nephrotic syndrome for the past two years, and the condition worsened this week, leading to his death. However, several residents of the same apartment complex are also experiencing recurring diarrhoea and vomiting.

Mansoor Ali, a resident of the apartment complex, said that health issues such as diarrhoea and vomiting have persisted among many residents since the start of October.

"All hospitals nearby have at least one patient from our apartment complex, as everyone is falling sick regularly. We have been complaining about water contamination, but the problem is being downplayed," he said.

Avnidhar Hawaldar, another resident, was admitted to the hospital early this morning after falling unconscious. "I rushed to the hospital at 3 a.m. after I collapsed following a day-long bout of diarrhoea on Wednesday," he told *The Hindu* from the hospital.

Ramesh K.N., South City Corporation Commissioner, told *The Hindu* that a team was sent to the hospital to ascertain the reason behind the death and why people are facing health issues regularly.

"Our teams have deployed medical camps at the apartment complex at regular intervals over the past month, but there was no outbreak of any disease. There was no evidence of illness due to contamination, but safety measures were provided to the residents," Mr. Ramesh said.

Nithin, secretary of the apartment complex association, agreed with the corporation commissioner and said there was no water contamination issue.

Another official from the South City Corporation health team said earlier they had collected stool samples and conducted tests, but the results did not conclude that the issue stemmed from water contamination. However, the officer acknowledged that tests on the water sample from the tank showed slightly contaminated results.

He added that the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) carried out leakage tests, fixed issues wherever needed, and also conducted chlorination.

On Thursday, civic officials held a meeting with the apartment complex association, the BWSSB, and several residents.

The civic official said the BWSSB would once again examine the allegations of water contamination. Meanwhile, civic authorities have directed the apartment management not to host any events within the complex.

KSCA elections: HC reserves order on Shanth Kumar's plea against rejection of his nomination papers

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka on Thursday reserved its order on the petition questioning the rejection of nomination papers of K.N. Shanth Kumar, a director of The Printers (Mysore) Private Ltd., who is contesting for the post of the president of the managing committee of the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA).

Justice Suraj Govindaraj reserved the verdict after hearing the arguments on behalf of Mr. Shanth Kumar, the KSCA, the Electoral Officer (EO), and the other contestants for the post of president - former cricket players B.K. Venkatesh Prasad and Kalpana Venkatachar.

Earlier, the court viewed recording of the scrutiny proceedings undertaken by the EO on November 24 to ascertain the argument made on behalf of Mr. Kumar that the arrears of ₹200, due from Deccan Herald and Prajavani (DHPV) Sports Club, which has an institution membership with the KSCA and represented by Mr. Kumar, was already paid when the nomination papers were taken up for scrutiny, and details of payment made was informed to the EO.

No list of defaulters

Meanwhile, the KSCA pointed out that it had not prepared a list of members who have defaulted in payment of membership and hence the members could not be informed about arrears in payment towards membership fee before commencement of election process as per the by-law, which has a provision for not allowing a member to caste vote in the elections and contest elections in case of any arrears.

The court was also informed that messages would be sent through mobile phone for payment of membership fee for the individual life members, but no such messaging facility was there in case of institutional membership.

EO's information

On the other hand, it was informed to the court on behalf of the EO that the nomination papers of the candidates for the post of president was deferred for want of necessary records from the KSCA on the candidates, and hence the scrutiny of nomination papers for other posts were taken up.

When the scrutiny of nomination papers for the post of president were taken up the KSCA record did contain information about payment of arrears made on behalf of the DHPV Sports Club.

Learning from centenarians: new study unveils secrets of longevity

Healthy diets, active lifestyle, avoiding tobacco and alcohol, and social connectedness foster longevity, according to the findings from the Longitudinal Ageing Study of India; more scientific and policy-based ageing research however, is needed, as India's senior population continues to grow

Sunil Rajpal
Shreya Ronanki

The oldest-olds group (especially centenarians, aged 100+ years) can offer valuable insights and learnings towards understanding longevity via health and healthcare behaviour, social security, dietary patterns, and lifestyle habits. While research investments aimed at understanding the secrets to longevity have grown substantially in high-income countries, developing and populous nations such as India are yet to witness such research advancements.

Although India's traditional knowledge systems hold abundant insights into longevity characteristics, persistent gaps in research and reliable statistics continue to hinder efforts to decode existing wisdom. A recently-published paper on profiling the health and well-being of centenarians, utilising data from the Longitudinal Ageing Study of India (LASI) offer some learnings.

Shades of grey: India will be home to the highest number of centenarians (superagers) by 2050; therefore, the subject domain warrants timely research and policy attention. IMRAN NISSAR

Health markers

India's sample centenarians reveal striking patterns of superior health markers and resilience. Interestingly, most were found to be in good health, reflecting optimal biomarker profiles. More than half (55.5%) of centenarians had a normal Body Mass Index (BMI), while about 41% were underweight. Further, more than 91% of centenarians (100% of female centenarians) had a normal waist circumference. The absence of overweight and high-waist-circumference centenarians in the sample clearly indicates the importance of weight management and lean lifestyles (dietary restrictions and physical activity) for a healthier and longer life.

Chronic ailments that dominate discussions of ageing were virtually absent, with zero cases of high cholesterol, stroke, or heart disease, and only a few with diabetes (1.7%). More than 90% of centenarians had never consumed alcohol, and about 68% had never smoked tobacco. Collectively, these findings highlight the absence of major risk factors as a defining marker of longevity. Global studies have also observed that centenarians either completely avoid or markedly delay the onset of chronic diseases.

These findings add heft to the growing calls from experts to shift the public health discourse in India in order to promote healthy dietary habits and an active lifestyle at the population level, especially among older adults in urban areas. Nutrition policies and programmes need to pivot toward behavioural interventions to promote awareness of the benefits of weight management via healthy diets – reducing consumption of foods containing high fat, sugar, and salt; restricting alcohol and tobacco intake; and developing a consistent health routine. Active policy engagement in this regard has to start now, to mitigate the health burden in the coming decades.

Activities of daily living

Only about a third of the centenarians reported difficulties with basic activities of daily living (ADLs), including walking (33.3%), eating (33.3%), bathing (36.1%), and dressing (36.1%). However, more complex instrumental activities of daily living posed substantial barriers. A large proportion of centenarians struggled with housework (88.9%), managing money (83.3%), making calls (77.8%), shopping (75%), and finding addresses (69.4%). From a gender perspective, the findings are alarming, as most of the sample centenarians were female widows from rural areas.

The duality of resilience in health but dependence in daily function carries direct implications for ageing-related policies. The findings warrant sustained efforts towards promoting formal caregiving, community-based day-care services, accessible transport, nursing, and ambulatory care. These ADL limitations also indicate the requirement of an age-based tailored approach to providing elderly care and functioning assistance from a policy standpoint.

Behavioural interventions are also required to promote and destigmatise extra-familial services, such as outside help for formal nursing care of the elderly, to ease the workload on family members. This becomes especially important for tasks that require mental and cognitive abilities, including managing finances and calling for help in case of emergencies.

Advancements in modern technology can also be leveraged to provide remote monitoring support, as well as specialised geriatric aids and equipment to manage urgent healthcare needs.

Finally, a focus on improving social security nets for the oldest-old is critical to promote paid caregiving, along with enhancing the self-respect and subjective well-being derived from financial autonomy.

Well-being profile

Subjective self-assessments are known to be important markers of longevity. Several studies have shown that people with positive ratings toward self-health assessment and life satisfaction levels have a higher likelihood of better health markers and a longer life. The majority of the sample centenarians in India expressed moderate (36.8%) and high (51.2%) levels of satisfaction with their lives. More than 75% of the sample centenarians believed that they were healthy and happy.

Such findings point towards the need to promote discussions around socialisation activities and engagement, family care and bonding, living arrangements, and mental health issues. Potential pathways could be in the form of devoted elderly day-care platforms to encourage voluntary helping activities, augmenting a sense of purpose, and hence enhancing the self-assessment of well-being.

Additionally, spiritual gatherings are an essential platform for elderly Indians to socialise and connect at later stages of life. Fostering such congregations can be beneficial for both psychological and emotional well-being. Finally, a high well-being rating by the oldest-olds also indicates the importance of mental wellness. Possible learning points from this could be adopting better sleep routines, more outdoor recreational activities, and limiting screen time.

The way forward

India will be home to the highest number of centenarians (superagers) by 2050; therefore, the subject domain warrants timely research and policy attention. To emerge as a global economic powerhouse requires a long-term perspective on research in longevity and well-being. The first step forward is to build a strengthened database on the oldest-olds, their distribution across geographies, demographics, and socioeconomic groups, and their basic lifestyle habits.

India has demonstrated remarkable success in generating reliable demographic and health statistics on infant births, vaccinations, and maternal health. This capacity now needs to be extended to longevity and scientific, policy-based ageing research. Global evidence indicated that longevity secrets cut across clinical, biological, physiological, genetic, and socioeconomic factors. India, with its sheer scale and diversity, is uniquely placed to contribute to this understanding.

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THE GIST

Research investments aimed at understanding the secrets to longevity have grown substantially in high-income countries, developing and populous nations such as India are yet to witness such research advancements. Persistent gaps in research and reliable statistics continue to hinder efforts to decode existing wisdom in India

India's sample centenarians reveal striking patterns of superior health markers and resilience. Interestingly, most were found to be in good health, reflecting optimal biomarker profiles. These findings add heft to the growing calls from experts to shift the discourse in order to promote healthy dietary habits and an active lifestyle at the population level

To emerge as a global economic powerhouse requires a long-term perspective on research in longevity and well-being. The first step forward is to build a strengthened database on the centenarians

BIG SHOT

Protective shot: A girl being vaccinated against diphtheria at the Al-Afad camp for displaced people in the town of Al-Dabba, northern Sudan. AFP

India's food colouring woes and steps being taken to combat recurring issue

Athira Elssa Johnson

India continues to face recurring episodes of chemical adulteration in food, particularly through the use of non-permitted synthetic dyes. One of the most persistent among them is auramine O, a bright yellow industrial dye banned under Indian food safety regulations.

Recent inspections by State food safety departments, academic studies and even everyday observations have again uncovered its presence in food items.

What is auramine?

Auramine O is a synthetic yellow dye extensively used in industry, including textile and leather processing, printing inks, paper manufacturing, and certain microbiological staining procedures. It has a vivid colour and is inexpensive, but is not approved for use as a food colour in India. Toxicological research has linked its ingestion to a range of health risks, including liver and kidney damage, enlargement of the spleen, mutagenic effects that can alter genetic material, and potential carcinogenic outcomes. The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) classifies auramine as a substance that is possibly carcinogenic to humans.

Despite longstanding prohibitions, auramine O continues to enter the food chain largely due to its easy availability and low cost. GETTY IMAGES

Despite longstanding prohibitions, auramine continues to enter the food chain largely due to its easy availability and low cost. Industrial-grade colours are sold informally in local markets, and small-scale sweet makers or vendors often rely on these unlabelled powders because they provide a bright, appealing yellow that mimics saffron, turmeric, or permitted synthetic colours. In many cases, producers remain unaware of regulatory restrictions or view enforcement as avoidable.

While the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, provides stringent provisions against adulteration, enforcement remains uneven due to variations in laboratory capacity, staffing, and surveillance systems across States.

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) periodically intensifies sampling, surveillance, and enforcement efforts, particularly during festive seasons when colour adulteration peaks. Several States have launched targeted drives against illegal colourants, leading to seizures of unlabelled dye packets and prosecution of violating units. Alongside enforcement, awareness programmes for small food manufacturers and street vendors are being expanded to encourage safer manufacturing practices. There is also a push to strengthen laboratory infrastructure and develop rapid testing kits that can detect industrial dyes at the point of sale.

Eliminating auramine O from the food chain will require a multilayered approach. This includes tighter regulation of chemical markets selling industrial dyes, sustained community-level education for small manufacturers, broader deployment of easy-to-use testing tools, and stronger penalties for chronic violators. Consumer education will also be crucial.

(athira.elssa@thehindu.co.in)

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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Anti-smog guns installed at metro construction sites

82 In a post on X, the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation said on Thursday that it is among the first major construction agencies in the region to introduce these machines and now, it has mandated their use in all civil contractor agreements. PTI

Names in Bengal electoral roll that did not match with 2002

26 in lakh. The discrepancy emerged after the State's latest voter list was compared with the those prepared across different States between 2002 and 2006 during the previous SIR exercise, an official said on Wednesday evening. PTI

Magnitude of earthquake that hit western Indonesia

6.6 An earthquake hit an island off the coast of Sumatra in western Indonesia on Thursday, according to the United States Geological Survey (USGS), with no immediate reports of damage or tsunami warning. AFP

India's investment plan to boost rare earth magnet production

800 in $ million. The plan involves offering incentives and subsidies to help establish manufacturing capacity of around 6,000 metric tons per year. China's export curbs had earlier raised alarm among some Indian firms. AFP

Schools in Assam that lack drinking water, toilet facilities

1,391 In all State-run schools in 'char' and rural areas across Assam, almost 28,000 teaching posts are also lying vacant, the State Assembly was informed on Thursday. PTI

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Why India struggles to clear its air

India confronts a recurring pollution crisis shaped by quick fixes such as cloud seeding, smog towers and odd-even rules; fragmented air-quality governance, scattered accountability and short-term political incentives keep long-term progress out of reach

FULL CONTEXT

Ajay Singh Nagpure

Each winter, as Delhi slips back into its familiar grey haze, India reaches for the same set of quick fixes, treating the pollution crisis as if it were temporary. Cloud seeding, smog towers, water sprinkling, odd-even rules, and festival crackdowns reappear in a predictable cycle. These are all high-visibility steps that promise urgency, but they change little on the ground (or in the air).

Public debate breaks down just as quickly: scientists are blamed for weak solutions, politicians for weak will, and administrators for blindly importing Western ideas. There is some truth in each charge, but none explains the full picture by itself. Over the last couple of weeks in Delhi, the public response has also included small public protests. In the November 24 edition, 50-60 protesters gathered near India Gate under heavy security presence; the police eventually detained five people, even though the protests were peaceful.

Fight for rights: People protesting against air pollution near the India Gate in New Delhi. SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

Slices of control

The repeat pattern of short-term interventions points to a structural flaw: the country's air-quality institutions – scientists, governments, regulators, cities, and communities – operate largely on their own. With no clear ownership or shared authority, lasting progress remains elusive.

This disconnect is no accident; instead, it is the product of how India's air-quality governance has taken shape. Unlike countries such as the U.S., the U.K., Japan, or China, where strong national laws and empowered regulators drove decades of steady progress, India's system has been fragmented from the start. The responsibility for clean air is scattered across a long list of bodies: the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change; the Central Pollution Control Board; the State Pollution Control Boards; the Commission for Air Quality Management; the Delhi Pollution Control Committee; municipal bodies such as the Municipal Corporation of Delhi and the New Delhi Municipal Council; and various State departments overseeing agriculture, transport, industry and energy. Sectoral agencies such as the National Highway Authority of India, the Public Works Department, the power distribution companies, and planning authorities add yet more layers.

Each agency oversees a slice of the problem, and no single institution holds full authority or full accountability for air-quality outcomes. The result is uneven enforcement across States, weak inter-state coordination in the National Capital Region, and frequent contradictions between court orders, Union government directives, and local decisions.

Policymakers also face real constraints. The environmental powers are constitutionally shared, budgets and staffing are uneven, and judicial pressure often pushes immediate action over long-term planning. In a system where many actors are involved but none is empowered to lead, progress becomes slow, inconsistent, and easily overtaken by short-term, high-visibility measures that step in to fill the governance vacuum.

The dominance of short-term measures is not simply the result of weak institutions: it reflects the incentives that drive Indian governance. Quick fixes allow governments to show visible action within a single news cycle, avoid confronting powerful sectors such as construction, transport, and agriculture, and postpone politically risky reforms. They also fit comfortably within annual budgets, unlike long-term investments in clean fuel, waste systems, or industrial upgrades.

This is why cloud seeding, smog towers, water sprinkling, and odd-even schemes return each winter: they are inexpensive to announce, easy to deploy, and rarely provoke resistance (notwithstanding the recent protests). Tools such as anti-smog guns and festival crackdowns help officials demonstrate responsiveness, even if they do little for public health. In effect, these interventions serve the politics of pollution more than the science of it, masking structural failures with momentary action, while public exposure to harmful air remains largely unchanged.

Two traps

Another reason India's pollution response struggles is what can be called the intellectual trap: the belief that solutions conceived within elite institutions, think-tanks, multilateral agencies, or top scientific organisations will automatically translate into effective action on the ground. Much of India's clean-air discourse is shaped by people who are analytically rigorous but often removed from the day-to-day realities of municipal administration, enforcement bottlenecks, informal economies, and political constraints. Their proposals may be technically sound, but they frequently underestimate the complexity of implementation in cities that lack staff, budgets, regulatory continuity, or even basic record-keeping. As a result, many "expert-designed" strategies rarely move beyond pilot stages or are adopted without the institutional scaffolding they need to succeed.

This disconnect becomes clearer when these ideas encounter the lived systems that actually produce pollution: scattered governance, informal construction practices, diesel-dependent freight, fragmented land markets, and the economic pressures faced by farmers, transporters, and small industries. Elite policy frameworks tend to assume a level of administrative capacity and social compliance that simply does not exist uniformly across Indian cities. They focus on what should work in theory rather than what can work in practice. In doing so, they risk producing policies that are ambitious on paper but unmanageable for the institutions expected to implement them.

The second distortion is the Western trap: the tendency to import global "best practices" without redesigning them for Indian realities. Many of these models come from cities with abundant resources, stable public finance, strong regulatory credibility, and high institutional trust. When adopted wholesale, these approaches often carry assumptions that do not hold in India: consistent enforcement, reliable public transport, low informal activity, or predictable administrative coordination.

Technologies and regulations that function smoothly in European or East Asian settings encounter vastly different constraints in India's dense neighbourhoods, politically negotiated spaces and overstretched agencies. The issue is not the foreign origin of ideas but the lack of adaptation.

Together, the intellectual trap and Western trap shape a policy environment where strategies acquire their legitimacy by sounding sophisticated or globally aligned rather than by being grounded in how Indian institutions actually work. They produce initiatives that attract attention, secure funding, and generate impressive documents, yet struggle to scale or endure. Many fade quietly after a few months when confronted with routine bureaucratic churn, unclear mandates or resistance from stakeholders whose behaviour the policy sought to change. In the process, India's clean-air agenda becomes heavy on conceptual ambition but light on operational traction – a landscape of ideas that travel well but land poorly.

Indian constraints

Escaping the intellectual and Western traps means learning from global and expert ideas as well as accepting that even strong solutions must be redesigned for India's administrative and social realities. That requires institutions capable of planning beyond election cycles, coordinating across sectors, and staying focused even when political priorities shift.

For this, India needs clearer rules about who leads on air quality, who is accountable, and how decisions move between national, State, and municipal levels. A modern clean-air law with explicit mandates could create this basic clarity. The goal is not another powerful regulator but a coordinating body that can be trusted enough to align policies, resolve routine jurisdictional overlaps, and make sure implementation remains steady. Public access to compliance data and visible enforcement would make environmental rules credible while stable multi-year funding would allow agencies to build staff, maintain monitoring systems, and sustain long-term programmes instead of reacting to crises.

Effective institutions also need the right expertise. India needs a professional layer of science managers, i.e. people who understand science, governance, and political constraints, and can convert knowledge into workable, context-specific decisions. Their role is not to generate more studies but to adapt existing insights to local capacity, guide ministries through complex transitions, and keep reforms coherent despite bureaucratic turnover. Without this bridging function, India's scientific strengths, including its models, sensors, and analytical tools, remain disconnected from day-to-day decision-making.

What India lacks, ultimately, is not ideas but alignment: between ambition and capacity, between what experts recommend and what institutions can actually enforce. Imported frameworks and elite prescriptions often fail because they assume levels of staffing, coordination, and public compliance that vary widely across States and cities. Indian solutions must therefore begin with Indian constraints: uneven municipal capacity, informal labour markets, competing development pressures, and diverse regional priorities. Policies must be designed to be implementable, not just elegant, which means they must be built around what agencies can realistically enforce, what communities will accept, and what local budgets can support. Without this grounding, well-intentioned initiatives will continue to stall once they leave conference rooms and meet real-world conditions.

What India needs

Clean air is not a seasonal aspiration: it is essential to public health, economic productivity and basic functioning of cities. India can learn from global experience and from its own scientific advances, but lasting progress depends on institutions and policies shaped for Indian conditions. Technology may offer moments of relief but only governance built for India's complexity can deliver durable change. The tools exist and the demand for cleaner air is unmistakable. Thus, what India needs now is the confidence to design solutions that reflect its own realities and the commitment to sustain them long enough to make the air genuinely breathable.

Ajay S. Nagpure is an urban systems scientist at the Urban Nexus Lab at Princeton University

THE GIST

India's repeat cycle of cloud seeding, smog towers, odd-even rules and festival crackdowns reflects a structural flaw in air-quality governance, where responsibilities are scattered across many bodies and no institution has full authority or accountability.

India's response is weakened by the 'intellectual trap' and the 'Western trap' — expert and global ideas that look good on paper but fail in practice because they don't account for India's limited municipal capacity, informal economies, and complex political and administrative realities.

What India needs is institutions designed for Indian constraints: clearer rules on who leads, a modern clean-air law with explicit mandates, steady multi-year funding, credible enforcement, public access to compliance data, and science managers who can bridge science with governance and politics.

Northeast monsoon deficient in Bengaluru, but city likely to get rains

Districts in north-interior Karnataka has had the biggest negative departures, with Bagalkot recording the highest deficiency of 53% followed by Haveri with 50%

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengaluru Urban has recorded a 47% deficiency in the northeast monsoon during the period between October 1 and November 27. This is in stark contrast with the 6% deficiency in rainfall during this period in Karnataka, and the third-highest deficiency overall in the State.

Districts in north interior Karnataka had the biggest negative departures. Bagalkot recorded the highest deficiency, with 53%, followed by Haveri with 50%. Vijayapura and Kalaburagi followed Bengaluru Urban with -46% and -45% departures.

On the other hand, many districts also saw a large excess in rainfall. Bidar recorded the highest excess of 67% rainfall, followed by Kolar with 60%, and Hassan with 50%, according to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), Bengaluru.

Cyclonic storm Ditwah over southwest Bay of Bengal and adjoining Sri Lanka coast and the depression (remnant of cyclonic storm 'Senyar') over the Strait of Malacca are expected to bring rains. FILE PHOTO

Deep depression

However, C.S. Patil from IMD Bengaluru said the deep depression over Sri Lanka has turned into a cyclonic storm, and rain is expected for the next few days over parts of South Interior Karnataka. Bengaluru Urban, Bengaluru South, Tumakuru, Kolar, and Chickballapur are expected to receive heavy rain. Cyclonic storm Ditwah over southwest Bay of Bengal and adjoining Sri Lanka coast and the depression (remnant of cyclonic storm "Senyar") over the Strait of Malacca are expected to bring rains.

About cyclonic storm Ditwah over southwest Bay of Bengal and adjoining Sri Lanka coast, the IMD bulletin on Thursday said, "The deep depression over southwest Bay of Bengal and adjoining Sri Lanka coast moved north-northwestwards, intensified into the cyclonic storm Ditwah and lay centered at 11.30 hrs IST of November 27 over the same region close east of Pottuvil (Sri Lanka), about 90 km south-southeast of Batticaloa (Sri Lanka), 120 km northeast of Hambantota (Sri Lanka), 200 km south-southeast of Trincomalee (Sri Lanka), 610 km south-southeast of Puducherry (India) and 700 km south-southeast of Chennai (India)."

"It is very likely to continue to move north-northwestwards across southwest Bay of Bengal and adjoining Sri Lanka coast and reach over southwest Bay of Bengal off North Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and adjoining south Andhra Pradesh coasts by early morning of November 30," it said.

"The deep depression (remnant of cyclonic storm "Senyar") over the Strait of Malacca moved nearly eastwards, weakened into a depression and lay centred at 11.30 hours of November 27 over the same region about 200 km south of George town (Malaysia), 380 km east-southeast of Kuta Makmur (Indonesia), 880 km east-southeast of Nancowry (Nicobar Islands) and 1020 km southeast of Car Nicobar (Nicobar Islands). "It is very likely to move nearly eastwards and weaken further into a well marked low pressure area during next 12 hours," the bulletin added.

Rain is expected over parts of South Interior Karnataka from November 28, and Coastal and North Interior Karnataka from November 29 and continue till December 3.

KIA to get a new Air Traffic Control tower

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As part of the ongoing expansion, the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) will get a new Air Traffic Control (ATC) tower.

The new ATC tower will replace the existing one which has been in operation since the airport was commissioned in May 2008.

In this regard, the Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) has issued a tender. "The current terminal is nearly 18 years old and needs to be upgraded, many equipment and systems have to be updated to meet today's requirements. Also the number of Air Traffic Movements has gone up significantly over the years and to meet all these demands, we, along with our stakeholders, decided that a new ATC should be commissioned," an BIAL official told *The Hindu*. The official said that it was yet to be decided whether the new ATC would come up in a new location or at the present one.

Preliminary stage

"If it is decided that it will be set up at the present location, then the ATC will be demolished and a new one will be constructed. If that is the case then a temporary ATC would be constructed to manage the air traffic. However, all this is still in the preliminary stage and that is why we have issued an RFI," the official added. The ATC is managed by the Airports Authority of India. The KIA is the third largest airport in India and the busiest airport in south India.

In the first nine months in 2025, the airport handled 32.4 million passengers.

Several expansion projects have been planned for the airport which include the construction of the second phase of Terminal 2 and a third terminal.

Fog affects 48 flights at KIA

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

As many as 48 flights were affected as this season's first spell of dense fog descended on the Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) in Bengaluru in the early hours of Thursday.

Airport officials said that 48 flights were delayed from 4.44 am due to foggy conditions. "The maximum delay observed was 69 minutes and minimum delay of one minute," officials said.

There were also two diversions. One Air India Express flight from Mangaluru was diverted to Chennai and one Air India flight from Delhi was diverted to Kochi.

The fog at KIA is known as radiation fog. It is anticipated during the four months from November to February between 3 a.m. and 8.30 a.m. During this period, flight operations are affected at Bengaluru airport due to poor visibility.

The IMD forecast for Bengaluru city and the surrounding neighbourhood for the next 48 hours said that there would be generally cloudy sky. "Mist very likely during early morning hours in some areas. Maximum & Minimum temperature very likely to be around 27°C and 17°C respectively," the forecast said.

Digital Mobile Planetarium programme launched

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Digital Mobile Planetarium, which brings an immersive astronomy experience directly to school campuses through custom-built vehicles equipped with a 5-metre dome, 360-degree fish-eye projection, air-conditioning and advanced audio systems, has been launched.

The initiative has been conceived to bridge the rural-urban gap in access to planetarium learning, enabling students to explore the universe from their own school premises.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, who launched the initiative on November 26, said it had already reached over 17 lakh students.

Terming it a significant achievement in democratising access to astronomy, he said, "Our aim is to spark scientific curiosity in rural children and bring high-quality science education closer to them."

Minister for Science and Technology N.S. Boseraju said the programme has been infused with upgraded technology.

Delhi Metro Rail Corporation floats tender to develop IDMS for BMRCL

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) has invited bids for the supply, installation, testing, and commissioning of an Integrated Data Management System (IDMS) that will be deployed for Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL). The initiative is aimed at strengthening Namma Metro's operational and maintenance processes.

According to senior BMRCL officials, the system is being developed with technical support from the DMRC, which has been managing metro operations for more than two decades. "The DMRC brings deep operational insight and long-standing experience in maintaining a large urban rail network. Partnering with them allows us to tap into that expertise and build a system suited to Bengaluru's requirements," an official told *The Hindu*.

Following extensive discussions between the two organisations, it was agreed that the DMRC would customise an IDMS similar to the one used in Delhi, adapting it to the BMRCL's operational scale and asset structure.

The tender submission deadline has been fixed for November 28, and technical bids are scheduled to be opened on December 1. The proposed IDMS is expected to streamline key maintenance functions, including preventive and corrective maintenance, routine inspections, and day-to-day operational support.

Techie killed in accident

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A 35-year-old software engineer was killed after losing control over the motorcycle he was riding and crashed into the road median in Judicial Layout on Wednesday night.

The deceased has been identified as Anand.

Police suspected that he was overspeeding and lost control and crashed into the median.

'Pourakarmikas should be allowed to use toilets in all hotels in GBA limits'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chairperson of the Karnataka Safai Karmachari Commission P. Raghu requested the Chief Commissioner of the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA), M. Maheshwar Rao, to permit pourakarmikas to use toilets in all hotels in the GBA limits.

During an interaction programme held in Yelahanka to address grievances of sanitation workers on Thursday, Mr. Raghu also directed officials of the North Corporation to ensure that all pourakarmikas and sanitation staff have access to well-equipped rest rooms at every mustering point.

Around 300 sanitation workers attended the interaction and raised concerns about gaps in basic facilities. Mr. Raghu instructed officials to immediately initiate measures to set up restrooms in all locations where such facilities were absent.

Following the interaction, Mr. Raghu held a review meeting with officials and requested them to conduct mandatory health check-ups and ensuring timely payment of wages. He also directed officials to reimburse children's education fees, issuing regularisation orders, apart from implementing housing schemes and facilitating admissions for workers' children in Morarji Desai and other residential schools.

Mr. Raghu directed officials to compensate dues for families of sanitation workers who die while in service.

Fifteen mobiles recovered from inmates

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

During a series of surprise inspections, the prison staff seized 15 mobile phones, 11 SIM cards, three chargers, and three earphones from various barracks on November 26.

A team of prison officials found mobile phones concealed in the pillow of one of the convicts identified as Muniraju. The officials intensified the search and find other mobile phones concealed in the bathroom window sills and cupboards of other inmates. The officials zeroed in on two convicts Rabikul Islam and Muniraju, and filed a complaint. Based on the complaint, the Parappana Aagrahara police booked a case against the accused.

Timings
BENGALURU

FRIDAY, NOV. 28	
RISE 06:24	SET 17:51
RISE 12:33	SET 00:00
SATURDAY, NOV. 29	
RISE 06:25	SET 17:51
RISE 13:12	SET 00:38
SUNDAY, NOV. 30	
RISE 06:25	SET 17:51
RISE 13:52	SET 01:31

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	29	22
Mysuru	29	18
Bengaluru	27	18

Bengaluru Today
27°C The weather will be dry. Day will be comfortable. Night will be slight cool.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
28°C Morning will be slight cool. Day will be comfortable. Night also will be slight cool. Dry weather to prevail.

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THE HINDU
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Indicative information regarding withheld Stray vacancy Round of Online Counselling for admission in All India Seats in B.D.S. & B.H.M.S. courses

PRESS COMMUNIQUE

In compliance of direction issued by Health, Medical Education & Family Welfare Department, GoJ, Ranchi regarding Stray vacancy Round of Online Counselling vide Letter No.-09/Chi.Maha./07-04/2025-439 (9) dated-26.11.2025, the Board will resume Stray Vacancy Round of Online Counselling for vacant All India seats in B.D.S. & B.H.M.S. Courses in Vananchal Dental College and Hospital, Garhwa; Devki Mahavir Homeopathic Medical College & Research Hospital, Garhwa under Babu Dinesh Singh University, Garhwa and Laxmi Chandravansi Homeopathic Medical College Hospital & Research Centre, Bishrampur, Palamu of Jharkhand State as per the Revised Schedule.

Detailed information in this regard has been uploaded under "Important Notice" column at **Board's website http://jceceb.jharkhand.gov.in.**

Sd/-
(Megha Bhardwaj, I.A.S.)
Controller of Examination

PR.NO.367225 Jharkhand Combined Entrance Competitive Examination Board(25-26):D

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
भारत सरकार का उपक्रम A Government of India Undertaking
सिंडिकेट Syndicate

BENGALURU

E-AUCTION NOTICE

SALE NOTICE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES THROUGH E-AUCTION (ONLINE AUCTION)
UNDER RULES 8(6) & (9) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES 2002

Notice is hereby given to the effect that the immovable properties described herein, taken possession under the provisions of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, will be sold by inviting tenders on the following terms & conditions. E auction arranged by the service provider **M/s PSB Alliance (BAANKNET)** . through the website **https://BAANKNET.COM//**

Sl. No.	1)Name of the Borrower / Guarantor(s) 2)Name of the Branch and Secured Creditor	1) Secured Debt outstanding 2) Reserve Price 3) Earnest Money Deposit	1) Last date of deposit of EMD 2) Last date of KYC documents 3) EMD Details 4) Bid Factor	1. Date of Auction 2. Time of Auction 3. Date & Time of Inspection
1	1) Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s) : **M/s REWARDS SOURCING PVT LTD,** I)1st Floor, No 18, Sns Plaza Road ,Kumara Krupa Road, Bangalore North 560001. **2. M/s REWARDS SOURCING PVT LTD** Ii)no 11,3 Rd Floor, Railway Parallel Road, Nehrunagar, Bengaluru - 560020. **3. Ms. SHARVANI SACHIDANAND DIRECTOR and GUARANTOR of M/s REWARDS SOURCING PVT LTD** D/o Budagere Sachidanand, No 201 Hanathe 4th C Main ,3rd Block, 3rd Stage ,Basaveshwara Nagar ,Bangalore North 560079. **4.Mrs PINKY DHANPAL SAKARIA DIRECTOR AND GUARANTOR OF M/s REWARDS SOURCING PVT LTD** W/o Dhanpal Sakaria, No 33/1 Sakaria Nivas Neharunagar , Seshadripuram 1st Cross ,Bangalore North 560020. **5. Smt. SHANTI DEVI GUARANTOR and MORTGAGOR of M/S REWARDS SOURCING PVT LTD** W/o Tejraj Bantiya, No 50/30 Yamuna Bai Road ,Opp E Tv Office Madhavanagar, Bangalore North 560001. **6. Sri. DHANPAL SAKARIA GUARANTOR and MORTGAGOR of M/S REWARDS SOURCING PVT LTD** S/o Inderkumar Devichandji Sakaria, No 33/1, 1st Cross, Nehrunagar, Banglore 560020. **7. Sri. NIRMAL BANTIYA GUARANTOR of M/S REWARDS SOURCING PVT LTD** S/o Tejraj Bantiya, No 50(30) Yamuna Bai Road ,Opp E Tv Office, Madhavanagar Bangalore North 560001. **8. MR. SURESH KUMAR , Represented By Poa Holder Mrs. Pinky Dhanpal Sakaria Partner Of M/s Dhruvi Builders And Constructions** Registered Office At No.33/1, 1st Cross Road, Nehru Nagar, Bangalore 560020. **9. M/s Dhruvi Builders and Constructions (Represented by Mrs. Pinky Dhanpal Sakaria and Mr. Suresh Kumar, Represented by POA holder, Mrs. Pinky Dhanpal Sakaria) MORTGAGOR of M/S REWARDS SOURCING PVT LTD** Registered Office at No.33/1, 1st Cross Road, Nehru Nagar, Bangalore 560020. **2) Canara Bank - Infantry Road Branch Ph No. : 9483521927, 9913251189, 9632452168**	1) **Rs.5,69,50,222.34** plus further interest & charges 2) **Rs. 2,01,14,000/-** 3) **Rs. 20,11,000/-**	1) **29.12.2025** up to 5.00 PM 2) **29.12.2025** up to 5.00 PM 3)EMD payment to E-Wallet or Through Challan generated in M/S PSB Alliance Private Limited (BAANKNET) Portal. 4) **Rs. 5,00,000/-**	1. **30.12.2025** 2. **11.00 AM to 12.00 PM** 3. **26.12.2025 10.00 AM to 4.00 pm**

Description of the Immovable assets : All that piece and parcel of Residential Site No.93, in the layout "Nitesh Rio" formed as per the plan approved by Bangalore Mysore Infrastructure Corridor Area Planning Authority out of the land in S Y No.20/2 of Uttarahalli, Manavarthekaval Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk duly converted for residential purposes as per the official Memorandum No. B.Dis.ALN.SR (S) 239/03-04 dt 20.10.2003, issued by the Deputy Commisioner, Bengaluru District, measuring 3560Sq Ft and bounded by **East By :** Site No.69 & 70 , **West By :** Road ,**North By :**Park And **South By :**Site No.92.
Owned by M/s Dhruvi Builders and Constructions Represented by partners Mrs. Pinky Dhanpal Sakaria and Sri Suresh Kumar

For all details contact at Regional Office, MG Road, Bangalore. Contact Numbers - 1) 79074 16232, 2) 70107 03787

Place: Bangalore ,Date : 27.11.2025 **Authorized Officer , Canara Bank**

Published by Nirmala Lakshman at No 19&21, Bhagwan Mahaveer Road, Bengaluru-560001 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRP Act).
ISSN 0971 - 751X

EXPLAINER

Why are Srinagar's traditional livelihoods struggling to survive?

How are wetlands, lakes, and mountains shaping Srinagar's economy? What role did Article 370's dilution play in local livelihoods? Why are tourism, horticulture, and artisan trades struggling? What strategies can build a resilient, locally rooted economy?

Tikender Singh Panwar

Horticulture requires reliable cold-chain infrastructure, climate-adapted crops, and farmer cooperatives. IMRAN NISSAR

The story so far:

"If paradise is to be found on earth, Kashmir is it." Yet today, Kashmir's paradise is fraying – and in Srinagar, we find the fault-lines of a regional economy at a crossroads: between beauty and breakdown; between traditional livelihoods and externally imposed growth models. Srinagar is facing mounting ecological stress, weakening traditional sectors, and the after-effects of governance disruptions since the dilution of Article 370. Wetland loss, supply-chain breakdowns, urban sprawl, and joblessness have intensified economic fragility.

Why is Srinagar ecologically fragile?

Srinagar, nestled in a Himalayan valley, carries deep ecological vulnerabilities. Wetlands, lakes, and mountains have kept the city alive – as a horticultural belt, tourist beacon, and artisan hub. But unchecked urban expansion, sprawl, flood risk, and infrastructure stress are now compromising that fragile base. A local report notes that formerly natural sponges have been overtaken by construction; "encroached wetlands and choked drains... amplify flood damage, while unchecked sprawl hikes living costs."

Meanwhile, the horticulture sector – once a pillar of Kashmir's rural-urban interface – has been hammered. One study points out that despite the abrogation of special status, the annual growth rate slumped, supply chains broke down, and the backbone of thousands of livelihoods cracked.

What changed after the dilution of Article 370?

Since the dilution of Article 370 in August 2019, the region has experienced a dramatic governance shift. The dissolution of the Statehood status, communication blackouts and prolonged curfews have disrupted not only everyday life but also economic institutions. For instance, a qualitative study of women entrepreneurs in Srinagar and Ganderbal shows how the communication blackout, network restrictions and lockdowns crushed their ability to market crafts, connect with customers, and sustain a business.

In Srinagar, the private sector has remained stunted, while over 32,000 government posts remain unfilled as of March 2025. Urban unemployment stands at 11.8%, youth unemployment at 32%, and women's unemployment at 53.6%.

Then came the collapse of the three pillars: tourism, horticulture, and artisan trades.

Tourism is projected as the engine of revival, yet it remains highly seasonal and vulnerable.

A recent article reports that in 2025 alone, landslides and highway closures stranded 800+ fruit trucks, resulting in over ₹200 crore losses in a few days – demonstrating the fragility of the entire local supply chain.

Supply disruptions, climate risk, poor market access, and policy neglect have reduced horticulture's share in GDP and hampered its role as a stable driver.

Artisan trades are similarly suffering. A qualitative study found that women artisans in the handicraft industry face exploitation, lack of access to markets, scarcity of raw materials, and breakdown in supply chains. Many street vendors and women workers in informal markets earn as little as ₹250-300 a day.

Economic disruptions have pushed certain marginalised and transgender communities into sex work, as other income sources disappear.

Why does the metropolitan capital infusion model fall short?

Many growth plans for Srinagar treat it as a recipient of large capital flows – real estate, tourism mega-projects, urban infrastructure – on the assumption that spending automatically leads to upliftment. But when local governance is weak, traditional livelihoods are ignored, and the ecological base is compromised, this model fails.

In Srinagar's "smart city" push, for example, artisan spaces and vendors are often squeezed out while the facade beautifies; green spaces vanish, older trees are removed; livelihoods are disrupted.

Hence, unless growth anchors itself in the local economy, the "integration into a metropolitan capital" approach risks increasing fragility rather than alleviating it.

What are the plausible directions for sustainable growth?

Horticulture requires reliable cold-chain infrastructure, climate-adapted crops, and farmer cooperatives. Wetlands, floodplains, and lake systems must be protected and integrated into urban planning. Instead of sprawl, we should invest in green infrastructure.

Tourism can grow through community-led, heritage-based, and ecologically sensitive models that place artisans and local hosts at the centre.

Srinagar's artisan and craft-based economy needs institutional support that values its cultural depth. Traditional clusters of weavers, shawl-makers, wood-craft workers, papier-mâché artists and brassware makers require design assistance, accessible digital marketing channels and systems that reduce dependence on exploitative intermediaries. The State must also facilitate micro-finance, raw-material common-pools, craft-export linkages, and protection of workshop spaces rather than treating artisan neighbourhoods as "peripheral" to modern development.

Urban planning should integrate artisan quarters, preserve workshops, not criminalise street vendors or force them into oblivion. What Srinagar needs is a managed transition rather than displacing them.

Restoring meaningful local governance is essential for any sustainable economic revival. Without a local voice, top-down capital flows will only deepen alienation.

State policy should ensure reliable connectivity, functional marketing platforms, skill upgrades, and helplines for women entrepreneurs.

The growth slump and joblessness have pushed vulnerable groups into the margins. A coordinated social protection, vocational training and livelihood diversification strategy is needed.

Most importantly, Srinagar's future depends on building a balanced economic base rather than relying on tourism or real estate alone.

Horticulture, artisanship, small-scale manufacturing, niche tourism and services must grow together to reduce vulnerability. For example, horticulture alone engages more than three million people in the region, and ignoring it weakens the entire economic foundation.

Tourism, meanwhile, should be made resilient to frequent disruptions through stronger links with local crafts, digital outreach, homestays, and off-season offerings.

Urban job creation should focus not just on high-capital projects but on upgrading the informal economy and creating linkages with village-town interactions.

What does all this mean for Srinagar's future?

Srinagar is at an inflection point. It strains under the weight of ecological, economic and governance vulnerabilities. To restore its promise, growth cannot simply mean "capital inflow and smart city facade". It calls for reviving the soils, the workshops, the crafts homes of Srinagar, listening to its women entrepreneurs, artisans, and small farmers; empowering them through connectivity, governance, market access, and ecological protection.

In doing so, we shift from fragility to resilience – from a "metropolitan cash-influx" model to a locally rooted, sustainably scaled economy.

The question for policymakers, for civil society, for the local economy is: Will we walk that path – or will Srinagar's paradise slip through our fingers?

Tikender Singh Panwar is a former Deputy Mayor of Shimla and currently a member of the Kerala Urban Commission

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

S. Upendran

Did you manage to pay the telephone bill before 1-00 o'clock?"

"No, I didn't. I was late. I reached the office at 1-30. But luckily for me, the concerned clerk allowed me to pay the bill."

"That was nice of him. But tell me why was the clerk worried?"

"I didn't say he was worried. All I said was..."

"...you said that the 'concerned clerk' took the cheque from you."

"But I never said...."

"...when you say, 'The concerned clerk took the cheque from me', it means, 'The worried clerk took the cheque from me.' 'Concerned' means 'worried' in that sentence."

"Really? So, if I say, I went to school and met the concerned teacher, does it mean that I met the worried teacher?"

"That's right! I took the child to the concerned parent, means I took the child to the worried parent."

"But tell me, how do I say, I gave the cheque to the clerk who was responsible for collecting the telephone bills?"

"'I gave the cheque to the clerk concerned.' "

"I see. If I say, I went to school and met the teacher concerned', it means that I met the teacher responsible for some particular thing."

"Exactly! It could be that you met the teacher who was responsible for making arrangements for the party."

"Or the teacher who failed me in Physics!"

"Yes"

"Can you give me another example?"

"The General nearly killed a thousand people. In that sentence..."

"...that sentence means that the General was responsible for the death of nine hundred and...."

"...no. You see, there's a difference in meaning between 'The General nearly killed a thousand people' and 'The General killed nearly a thousand people'."

"What is the difference?"

"The first sentence, 'The General nearly killed a thousand people,' means that the General came close to killing that many people. But he didn't kill any at all. He managed to avoid killing anyone."

"I see. So, if I say, 'I nearly ran two miles', it means that I didn't run at all?"

"Yes, maybe somebody gave you a ride and saved you the trouble of running."

"I never have such luck. 'I nearly bought the entire set' would mean that I almost bought the complete set, but for some reason I didn't! In fact, I didn't buy anything at all!"

"That's correct. You had planned to buy the set, but you changed your mind."

"But what if I actually ran approximately two miles?"

"You say 'I ran nearly two miles'."

"So the sentence, 'The General killed nearly a thousand people', means that he did kill some people. Maybe he succeeded in killing over nine hundred and...."

"And for the final example, 'I bought nearly the complete set'..."

"...it means that although you didn't buy everything that was a part of the set, you bought most of it."

"Very good! You're not nearly as dumb as I thought!"

"That's not a nice thing to say."

"I'm sorry. You'd better run along home."

"I know. I don't want concerned parents waiting for me at the doorstep."

Published in The Hindu on October 27, 1998

THE DAILY QUIZ

Friedrich Engels, considered to be the co-author of the Communist Manifesto, was born on this day in 1820. Here is a quiz on the socialist philosopher

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Vighnesh P. Venkitesh

QUESTION 1
What term denotes the idea that progress arises as a synthesis of opposing views, which was substantial in Engels's works?

QUESTION 2
Name the German philosopher known for his concept of the above-mentioned synthesis, who influenced Engels?

QUESTION 3
The condition of the working class in which country is considered to be the first major socialist work by Engels?

QUESTION 4
Name the organisation, regarded as the first communist political party, in which both Engels and Marx were key members and on behalf of which the Communist Manifesto was written?

QUESTION 5
Name the unfinished work of Engels, which was published in the Soviet Union in 1925?

Visual Question:
Name the city, which had a profound connection with Engels, where this statue is located? WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Questions and Answers of the previous day's daily quiz: 1. This week, the International Astronomical Union decided that a 3.5-billion-year-old crater on Mars will be named for the first Indian who served as the director of the Geological Survey of India. **Ans: M.S. Krishnan**

2. This Indian physicist from Hooghly district was known for his studies of light under CV Raman's guidance and on radiophysics with Camille Gutton. **Ans: Sisir Kumar Mitra**

3. Homi Jehangir Bhabha has a 64-km-wide crater named for him on the moon's far side. The crater is of scientific interest because the impact that formed it penetrated deep into the floor of the basin it is located in, excavated materials, and distributed them on the surrounding plains. Name this famous basin. **Ans: South Pole-Aitken Basin**

4. This astronomer is noted for estimating the value of pi with an accuracy high for his time, for his study of Diophantine equations, and for his studies of the epicycles of motion governing the planets, among others. **Ans: Aryabhata**

5. This physicist, born in Varanasi in 1929, was best known for founding and developing the field that uses isotopes produced by cosmic rays, e.g., in rocks and ice, to trace rates of erosion, sediment transport, and other planetary processes over long periods. **Ans: Devendra Lal**

Visual: Name this physicist. **Ans: Meghnad Saha**

Early Birds: Siddhartha Viswanathan | Sudhir Thapa | Arun Kumar Singh | Sunil Madhavan | Ajay Majumder

Word of the day

Hedging:
a way of avoiding giving a direct answer or opinion

Synonyms: uncertain, unwilling, hesitating

Usage: *Her hedging made it clear she didn't want to answer.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/hedgingpro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /hɛdʒ.ɪŋ/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Guidelines issued for improving safety of gig workers and public

Some of the key elements of the framework include police verification, GPS tracking, and in-app SOS buttons

Chetan B.C.
BENGALURU

In a move aimed at improving safety of gig workers and the general public, the Bengaluru City Police have issued a detailed set of guidelines to all app-based service aggregators. The list includes food delivery, ride-hailing, and hyperlocal logistics platforms.

The directive comes amid growing concerns over crimes involving gig workers (by and against them), and loopholes in safety mechanisms.

Police Commissioner Seemant Kumar Singh said the instructions were designed to ensure that companies deploying thousands of gig workers across the city adopt stronger monitoring systems, verification procedures, and emergency-response mechanisms.

Mr. Singh said gig platforms must conduct thorough police verification and background checks of every delivery partner and driver before they start the work. Aggregators are required to maintain updated personnel records and make them available to law enforcement agencies whenever required.

A document detailing the directives, accessed by *The Hindu*, emphasised that physical and digital address verification, employment checks, driving licence validation, and verification of vehicle documents are now mandatory. Companies may also rely on third-party agencies to carry out these checks.

Police Commissioner says that recognising the increased risks during late hours, aggregators must adopt special safety measures for workers operating between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. K. MURALI KUMAR

> Gig platforms must conduct thorough police verification and background checks of every delivery partner and driver before they start the work
>
> **SEEMANT KUMAR SINGH**
> Police Commissioner

Safety of gig workers

A senior police official said there have been instances in which habitual offenders have committed crimes while posing as delivery partners, including cases such as drug transportation. Additionally, since many gig workers do not use their own vehicles, it often becomes difficult to trace the individual involved during emergencies.

To address these concerns, aggregators have been instructed to ensure gig workers carry and display company-issued ID cards at all times. Companies must also provide uniforms or easily identifiable attire so workers can be recognised in public spaces.

A key element of the new safety framework is the requirement for in-app SOS buttons. Every gig worker's app must include an emergency alert feature directly linked to the company's control room and the local police. Platforms must also run a 24/7 helpline to support workers in distress. This measure is already under implementation. The police have directed companies to use GPS tracking for all tasks to monitor worker safety in real time. Location data related to deliveries and rides must be stored for at least 30 days to allow access during investigations of accidents, crimes, or complaints.

Recognising the increased risks during late hours, aggregators must adopt special safety measures for workers operating between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. These include access to emergency contacts, identification of safe zones, and advising workers to avoid isolated or poorly lit routes whenever possible. The gig workers will now be required to attend sensitisation sessions on appropriate conduct while interacting with customers, especially women, senior citizens, and children. Any worker accused of misconduct will be immediately suspended pending investigation.

The aggregators must cooperate promptly with police investigations and share verified data on demand. The police have also asked platforms to hold regular safety workshops on traffic rules, safe riding practices, cyber-security awareness, and procedures for reporting suspicious behaviour.

Workers are expected to participate in these sessions whenever they are offered, including those conducted by the traffic police. Companies must report any accident, theft, assault, or crime involving their workers to the police immediately. The police said that this would improve response times and creates transparency in incidents involving gig personnel.

Nodal officers

Now nodal officers appointed by each gig company will be held directly responsible for enforcing the fresh guidelines. The police have warned that failure to comply may result in legal action under relevant provisions of law.

SPOTLIGHT ON
» PAGE 6

Madanayakanahalli and Rajanakunte police stations added to city commissionerate

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government has issued an order reassigning Madanayakanahalli and Rajanakunte police stations from the Bengaluru Rural district jurisdiction to the Bengaluru City Police Commissionerate on Thursday.

This comes months after three police stations - Hebbagodi, Avalahalli, and Kumbalagodu - from neighbouring districts were added to the commissionerate in June 2025. With the inclusion of two more police stations, the total number of Law and Order police stations in the commissionerate has gone up to 117. The city has also seen the creation of three new divisions - North West, South West, and Electronics City - taking the total number of police divisions in the commissionerate to 11 in July 2025.

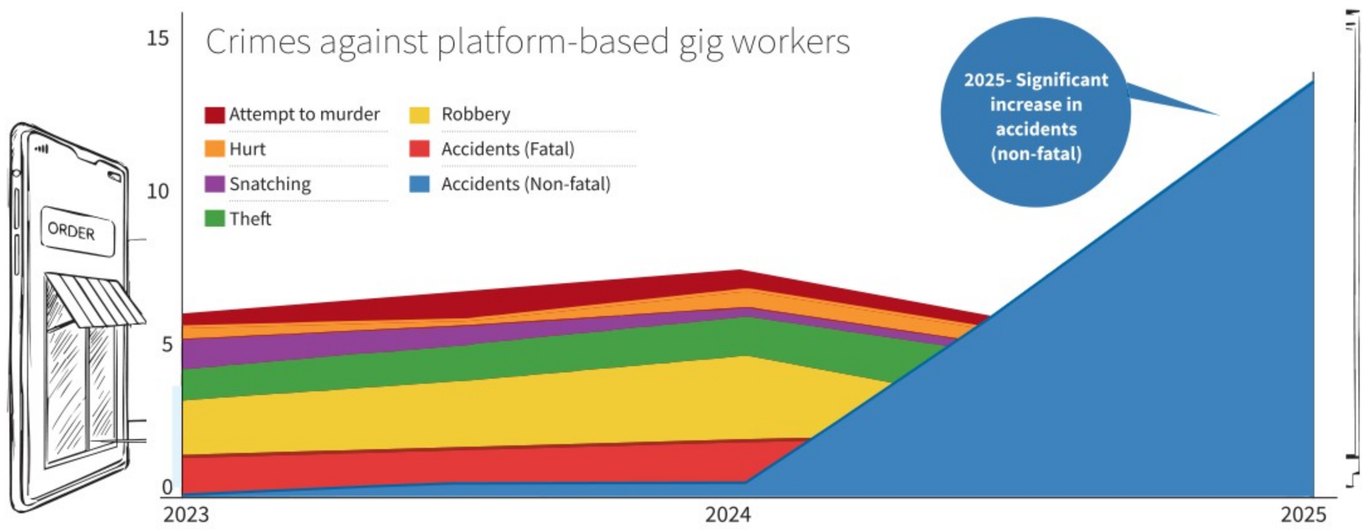
The proposal submitted by the DGP highlights a surge in criminal cases and traffic congestion in these areas, necessitating closer policing under the city unit

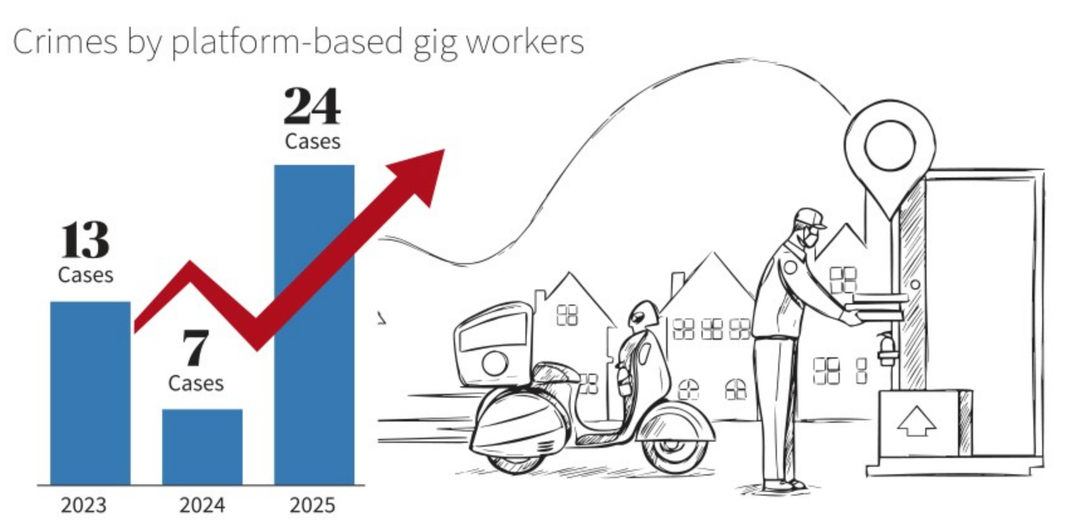
Proposal

According to the proposal submitted by the Director-General and Inspector-General of Police, the jurisdictions of the Madanayakanahalli and Rajanukunte police stations already fall under the Bengaluru Urban Revenue District and have witnessed rapid urbanisation, with population and development levels on par with Bengaluru city.

The proposal highlights a surge in criminal cases and traffic congestion in these areas, necessitating closer policing under the city unit. Acting on the recommendation, the government has approved the exclusion of Madanayakanahalli and Rajanukunte police stations from Nelamangala and Doddaballapura sub-divisions of the Bengaluru Rural district.

They will now function under the North West Division of the Bengaluru City Police.





The hidden costs of 10-minute deliveries

Multiple platforms offering 10-minute door delivery of anything under the sun and the middle class getting addicted to it has consequences often not talked about. **Chetan B.C.** explores how gig economy is adding to traffic and law and order issues.

Gig workers wait to collect their orders at a quick-commerce (Q-commerce) hub in Bengaluru. The United Food Delivery Partners' Union pointed out that there is immense pressure on delivery partners from two sides, both from the aggregators and customers, when they are working under time-bound delivery targets. ALLEN EGENUSE J.

Just about everything comes to your door today – from food and groceries to clothes and appliances. For thousands of workers who bring them over, it is always a race against time. Quick commerce companies promise customers deliveries in about 10 minutes, placing an unrealistic expectation on the delivery personnel who have to navigate Bengaluru's notorious traffic congestion. As a result, delivery workers overspeeding, zooming on footpaths to bypass jams, weaving their way through congested lanes and jumping signals is a common sight in the city.

As Bengaluru City Police Commissioner Seemant Kumar Singh puts it, the large presence of delivery personnel on pedestrian paths has even created the perception that footpaths are not out of bounds for motorists.

The significant number of delivery personnel on the road and the nature of the gig economy has added to making the city's roads more unsafe than they already were.

There are several cases of delivery personnel racing against time becoming accident victims themselves. Bengaluru has recorded at least 27 accidents over the last three years where delivery persons have been victims.

Bengaluru Traffic Police data accessed by *The Hindu* shows that violations by delivery partners have increased dramatically. In 2023, the Bengaluru Traffic Police booked 30,968 cases against delivery personnel. This rose sharply to 52,153 in 2024, and climbed again to 63,718 in just the first nine months of 2025. These numbers point not merely to individual lapses, but to a worsening systemic issue tied to the nature of gig work, rising urban pressure, and regulatory gaps.

The police have encountered several law and order cases as well. One such incident, described by Singh, involved a worker disappearing with a laptop he was to deliver. At the time of joining, he concealed his previous theft record, and the company, operating within a fast-expanding gig-work environment, failed to conduct proper background checks. When the police probed the case, they found that he had been sacked from another company because of his alleged involvement in a similar case.

In 2023, 13 law and order cases involving delivery personnel were reported. In 2024, the number recorded was seven. In 2025 so far, the tally has risen to 24, according to the city crime records bureau.

Larger social issue

According to R.S. Deshpande, former professor at the Institute for Social and Economic Change, these rising violations are deeply rooted in broader socio-economic factors. He notes that although gig working models, prevalent in many Western countries, have expanded rapidly in India, the regulatory frameworks that support such systems in the West have not been developed here.

The absence of clear laws governing gig work has had cascading effects on workers' lives and has resulted in growing concerns related to traffic disruptions, unsafe road behaviour, and petty crimes. Researchers studying the gig economy echoed his perspective, pointing also to the lack of social responsibility among aggregators, lawmakers' failure to address the multi-layered dimensions of gig work, and the availability and exploitation of cheap migrant labour as major contributing factors. Singh agreed that these structural conditions amplify both traffic violations and crime.

> Platforms portray as if 10-minute delivery is real, but practically it cannot be done so. Even the platforms are aware of it
>
> **VINAY SARATHY,** president of the United Food Delivery Partners' Union

As complaints grew, the Bengaluru Police convened a meeting last month with platform aggregators that employ gig workers. During the meeting, police presented an extensive set of documented violations committed by gig-economy workers and announced a series of measures. They warned aggregators that they would now begin fixing accountability directly on the companies through existing laws if violations continued.

The largest category of violations involves traffic offences.

Micromobility EV scooters, popular because they are inexpensive, lightweight, and easy to manoeuvre, make up a major share of these complaints. Yet, as police officers pointed out, almost no formal cases have been booked against riders of these scooters because they do not fall under the Motor Vehicle Act, 1988. "Legally, these scooters are treated like bicycles rather than motor vehicles," said Sahil Bagla, DCP (East, Traffic). He noted that police cannot impose penalties unless the scooter causes a traffic disruption, although special drives are conducted regularly to address such behaviour.

According to documents accessed by *The Hindu*, other crimes listed by Bengaluru Police involving delivery workers include robbery, assault, molestation, theft, sexual harassment and public nuisance.

Another major issue is drug movement. Peddlers have often used delivery services to transport drugs to customers using parcel options provided by aggregators. While many deliveries are unintentional on the part of delivery partners, police have found cases where delivery persons colluded with peddlers, who charged customers transportation fees and passed that money to delivery personnel. In another case, peddlers packaged drugs in medium-sized boxes, filled them with heavy objects to avoid suspicion, and delivered them to locations without the knowledge of the delivery person.

The police also flag the behavioural impact of delivery persons on the public. C. Vamsi Krishna, Additional Commissioner (West), said, "When congestion is high and motorists spot delivery persons riding on the footpath, it is highly likely that others will follow the same path. Reinforcing such behaviour threatens public safety and causes traffic disorderliness."

Unrealistic deadlines

While delivery personnel often get profiled and stigmatised as violators, Vinay Sarathy, president of the United Food Delivery Partners' Union, pointed out that there is immense pressure on delivery partners from two sides when they are working under time-bound delivery targets: from the aggregators and from the customers.

"Platforms portray as if 10-minute delivery is real, but practically it cannot be done so. Even the platforms are aware of it. On the other hand, when delivery partners are delayed due to genuine issues on the ground, such as traffic, aggregators issue warnings and sometimes even impose fines. The punishment can go as far as deactivating the delivery partners' IDs, which means they can no longer work with the company," he said.

He further added that although instances of customers shouting at delivery partners do not occur very frequently, the problem still persists, and delivery partners constantly have in mind that they must deliver the parcel quickly. "So, whenever the police conduct drives to crack down on delivery partners, we have urged that they should instead hold the companies (aggregators) responsible, because they are the ones who set unrealistic deadlines," he said.

Gajendra Singh, a delivery partner, speaking to *The Hindu*, said that customers lose their temper most of the time when a parcel is delayed by even 10 minutes. "There will be at least two calls if the order is delayed by a few minutes. Sometimes, when we have to deliver multiple orders, we are bound to be a bit late, but that is not condoned by customers, and they abuse us," Gajendra Singh said, adding that such aspects of the job force them to break traffic rules.

> There will be at least two calls if the order is delayed by a few minutes. Sometimes, when we are late, it is not condoned by customers, and they abuse us
>
> **GAJENDRA SINGH,** a delivery partner

While delivery workers are often involved in violations, they are also frequent victims of crime. According to Akshay Hakay Machhindra, DCP (Central), theft is the most common crime targeting delivery personnel. Many orders are placed after 10 p.m., which requires delivery workers to navigate isolated or poorly lit routes late at night. Thieves exploit this vulnerability, frequently snatching mobile phones. Investigations have revealed that some thieves specifically seek out delivery workers because they know the workers rely heavily on their phones for work.

Delivery personnel have also been threatened or intimidated by rowdy elements, sometimes being coerced into assisting in criminal activities. In the ride-hailing segment, similar issues surface. Deepika M.G., a professor at Alliance University, noted that cab drivers get verbally abused by intoxicated passengers, and some customers refuse to pay fares.

Industrial and legislative failures

Deepika emphasised that gaps in the regulatory framework have contributed significantly to the rising number of cases involving gig workers. When the Central government consolidated labour laws under the new labour codes, the Code on Industrial Relations did not address gig work and applied only to full-time employees. The Code on Wages (2019) also requires an employer-employee relationship, something that does not exist in the gig-work model.

If aggregators had been legally defined as employers and gig workers as employees, companies would have formal accountability. This would compel them to create safer working conditions, invest in training, and ensure that workers do not violate laws in the course of earning their wages. Instead, the current system relies heavily on incentives linked to fast deliveries, the number of orders completed, and customer ratings. These incentives, experts said, encourage risky behaviour.

Most delivery workers are migrants who move to the city seeking better livelihoods. Their desire to earn and send money home often drives them to take risks. Machhindra said that aggregators maintain "zero relationship" with delivery partners, as the entire system is governed by order IDs. Delivery workers, he said, are treated simply as "a mode of transport".

Deepika also pointed out that although Karnataka introduced the Gig Workers (Social Security and Welfare) Act, 2025, widely praised by stakeholders and activists for its progressive provisions, it has yet to be fully implemented.

Aggregators' role

The police have pointed to several ways aggregators could reduce violations: enforcing stricter hiring practices, providing training, linking incentives to zero traffic violations, and issuing clear behavioural SOPs. However, aggregators continue to hire workers without proper background verification because of high demand and the availability of cheap labour. This has resulted in widespread problems. Officers said aggregators avoid responsibility by defining themselves merely as "service providers" and by offering incentives that encourage unsafe, high-speed riding.

Delivery workers confirm the role of incentives. Naveen Raj, a delivery partner from Bihar, said night-time incentives and fast-delivery bonuses significantly increase their earnings. Ratings also matter, as higher ratings lead to more orders. Another delivery partner, Luv Kumar, said micro EV scooters are cost-effective and easy to manoeuvre through narrow lanes, allowing workers to make more deliveries in less time.

The city Police Commissioner noted that aggregators often fail to conduct even basic background verification, allowing habitual offenders to enter the workforce.

Deepika argued for legislative reforms to regulate this economy on the whole. She pointed out that a large number of workers from unorganised sectors have moved into gig work. With no reforms to the Contract Labour Act regarding wages and incentives, or better protections for unorganised workers, gig work becomes an attractive option because workers can earn up to ₹30,000 to ₹40,000 a month. In contrast, other unorganised workers earn an average of ₹15,000 a month and can lose an entire month's income to a single medical bill. Thus, gig work appears more profitable despite its risks. Now, in the absence of strict regulation, the Bengaluru Police have adopted a "fix accountability-or-book" approach.

Aggregators' accountability

At the meeting held last month, the police issued mandatory guidelines for gig-based service operators to improve safety for both workers and the public. They said that companies must conduct thorough background checks, ensure that workers carry ID cards, provide identifiable uniforms, activate SOS features linked to police control rooms, maintain GPS tracking with at least 30 days of data, and implement night-time safety measures. Delivery workers must also receive regular training on safety, cyber-awareness, and appropriate customer conduct, the police said.

Operators must promptly share verified worker data with the police, report any crimes or accidents involving workers, and suspend workers accused of misconduct until investigations are complete. Nodal officers will be held responsible for compliance, and violations may result in legal action. Although there are no direct legal provisions to charge aggregators, the police plan to use indirect sections under the Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita, 2023, including negligent behaviour or aiding criminal offences. They may also recommend licence cancellations of aggregators in cases of repeated violations.

For home and hearth

Vanya, a Kannada film about a father and daughter's fight to protect their forest homeland, premiered at the International Film Festival of India

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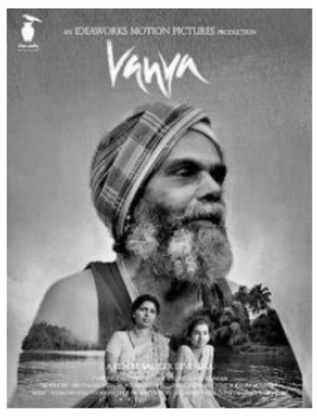
Badiger Devendra's *Vanya* was officially selected to premiere at the 56th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa, scheduled from November 20 to November 28.

Vanya was one of the Kannada films to be showcased in the Indian Panorama segment, the other being the blockbuster *Su from So*, produced by actor-filmmaker Raj B Shetty. Another Kannada film, *Rudhirvana*, directed by budding filmmaker Agni, also premiered in the Gala Premiere segment.

Badiger, who hails from North Karnataka, tells *The Hindu* this selection is a milestone for him and for the Kannada film industry.

The film, Badiger says, explores the themes that lie on the spectrum of exploitation and politics. "Exploitation is a historical issue. The oppressed have been suppressed by those in power. The film portrays a father and daughter's emotional fight to protect their forest homeland from the corporate mafia, oppression, and political exploitation," he explains.

Vanya boasts vibrant storytelling and showcases the cultural richness of Karnataka's film industry. Badiger, who made his directorial debut with the critically acclaimed *Rudri*, adds, "In terms of the story, we have had similar stories in Kannada before. For example, the 1997 film *Bhoomigeetha* and *Dweepa* in 2002 dealt with similar themes. I have taken the theme of oppression and added today's perspective and relevance."



"Tribals and people living in forests have been either thrown out of their homes or have voluntarily left in search of better livelihoods, simply because the system exploits them. Keeping this issue as the central plot, I have brought to life the story of Kariappa (played by Vaijanath Biradar), an old man who refuses to leave his home, and fights for his land."

The journey of making *Vanya* was special, says Badgier. "There is a perpetual question, *Kaadu* or *Naadu* (the city or the forest)? I have seen this conflict among people living in remote places and in big cities".

"People living in forests have migrated to cities. I read an article about an entire village in Himachal Pradesh being forcefully evicted, except for an old lady who refused to leave and stayed put. This, juxtaposed with people migrating to cities, forms the crux of my story."

Badiger is elated that his film premiered at the upcoming festival. "*Vanya*'s presence at the festival not only elevates Kannada cinema to an international stage but also strengthens the representation of regional films in India's rich cinematic tapestry."

Wild, but not free Stills from *Vanya*. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The director has also submitted the film to other festivals in Asia and across the world. "This film festival is one of the top festivals in Asia. Among hundreds of films submitted, only a few Kannada films made the cut. Our selection is a matter of pride for the entire Kannada film fraternity."

Bringing audiences back

Speaking on the larger issue of Kannada films not thriving at the pan-India level, Badiger says the industry lacks good content. "The industry won't survive only with films like *Kantara* or *KGF*. It needs more hits every year."

He further explains, "Between the '70s and '90s, our industry was rich because of the native and fresh content. Since the 2000s, however, the industry lost its reputation due to remakes from Telugu and Tamil. There is a clear difference between the quality of films between the '60s and '90s, and in the last 25 years. The Kannada audience is good. They want to watch films with good content, but we don't deliver. We are losing our audience to other languages."

The issue can be solved with consistency, he believes. "We need to acknowledge the dearth of good content and work towards bridging the gap," says the filmmaker, who is known for social-themed films.

He says the government should do its bit too. "Instead of capping the theatre prices at ₹200 for all films, they should have reduced ticket prices only for Kannada films. That would have got us some mileage."

After its premiere at the IFFI in Goa, *Vanya* will aim for a theatrical release in March 2026.

A helping of hospitality

Wait To Be Seated, an original collaborative work by two theatre collectives, will be staged in the city this weekend

Be my guest A scene from *Wait to be Seated*. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Anusha Mary Jones

What happens when two cultures sit down for a meal? *Wait To Be Seated* by Bengaluru-based Sandbox Collective and She She Pop from Germany, explores the different layers and agenda behind the hospitality of these two cultures.

Does a guest decide when it is time to leave or do the hosts have to start dropping hints? Where does one draw the line between people-pleasing and politeness? *Wait To Be Seated* attempts to unravel these questions through a dinner table dialogue.

Nimi Ravindran of Sandbox Collective says, "This isn't your usual play with roles, scenes or a script. It comprises six women playing themselves in situations that unfold in real time."

Wait To Be Seated was conceptualised when Sandbox visited Germany in 2022 and met with She She Pop. They discovered shared similarities in the principles they advocated – human rights, gender equality and solidarity towards lesser privileged communities.

For Ilia Papatheodorou of She She Pop, the unquestioned "laws" of hospitality that demand the hosting to be done by the female sex, was one of the reasons why *Wait To Be Seated* came into being. "Hospitality is often a female performance where the mothers are always expected to serve at the dining table, whilst having no plate of their own," says the artiste.

The collectives began working on rehearsals earlier this year, connecting over zoom calls, task sheets and a special Indian dance form that the German troupe has been practising for this performance.

Wait To Be Seated will be staged at Sabha, Bengaluru from 7pm onwards from November 28-30. Tickets starting at ₹300 available at sabhablr.in

Music for peace The South Asian Symphony Orchestra at an earlier perfiormance n Chennai. VELANKANNI RAJ B

Peaceful notes

Former Indian Foreign Secretary Nirupama Rao, the founder of the South Asian Symphony Foundation and its orchestra, on the organisation's upcoming events in Bengaluru

Preeti Zachariah
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"Music is our way of building bridges," says former Indian Foreign Secretary Nirupama Rao, the founder of the South Asian Symphony Foundation (SASF) and its orchestra, "established with the foundational goal of using music as a universal language to overcome global division, conflict, and rising nationalism."

The organisation, which launched its orchestra in 2019, uniting musicians from various South Asian nations and the diaspora to foster cooperation, connectivity, and mutual understanding through cultural and citizen diplomacy, will be organising two events in the city this weekend.

On Friday, November 28, SASF will present a lecture, 'Strings Across The Ocean' by Katherine Schofield, a professor of South Asian music and history and the head of the Department of Music at King's College London.

According to the event announcement, this talk follows the long, intertwined history through the journeys of stringed instruments: objects that silently carried culture across empires, oceans, and eras, reflecting on cultural entanglement, the circulation of musical ideas, and the power of sound to bridge distance.

"From the short-necked lute of ancient Gandhara that travelled west to become the medieval European lute, to the Italian violin that arrived on colonial ships in the 16th century before being transformed into a beloved Carnatic instrument, the movement of strings reveals centuries of exchange. Today's global sitar and electric guitar continue that story of evolution and mutual influence," it states.

The talk will be followed by a recital by the South Asian Symphony Orchestra (SASO) on November 29, featuring around 120 musicians from across South Asia, the South Asian diaspora in the United States and Europe, as well as choirs from Bengaluru and Chennai.

Nirupama says that she is especially moved by "who sits in the orchestra. You have musicians from different parts of South Asia, different languages, training, even life stories – but once they start playing, those differences don't disappear, they become strengths. It's a very real picture of coexistence."

Led by SASO's resident conductor Alvin Arumugam, the orchestra will perform an eclectic variety of music, including arrangements of a Carnatic Nottuswara, timeless melodies from Raj Kapoor's films, choral and vocal music, with German, French, Italian and English arias, with the centrepiece of the concert being the powerful Symphony No. 9, by Ludwig van Beethoven, which "feels like it was written for what we're trying to do," says Nirupama, pointing out that it is about human solidarity and shared joy. "That's exactly the spirit of SASF. When we perform it in Bengaluru, it isn't just a musical choice; it's a statement about the world we want to imagine."

In her opinion, both the talk and the concert are tied to the foundation's larger purpose: the lecture focusing on how cultures have always influenced each other through music, while the concerts depict that idea in real life, "with musicians from different countries sitting side by side and creating something together. That's really the heart of why the Foundation exists."

'Strings Across The Ocean' will be held at the Bangalore International Centre, Domlur, on November 28, starting at 6.30 pm, while the South Asian Symphony Orchestra (SASO) will perform at the Prestige Centre for Performing Arts, Konanakunte, on November 29 from 7 pm.

STEPOUT

On beauty

The Biology of Beauty, a conversation between researcher and educator Jinan KB and managing partner of CnT Architects, Prem Chandavarkar, will be held. The focus of the discussion will be Jinan's new book *Awakening Beauty*.
At the Bangalore International Centre, Domlur on December 2, from 6.30pm. Entry free, but RSVP required.

Art and the mind

Aanu Nondenayya Aanu Bendenayya, a solo exhibition of master artist Mahantesh Doddamani's paintings is to be held. The exhibition showcases a series of artworks that hint at the myriad struggles of the human mind.
At Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath, Kumarakrupa Road, till November 30, between 10.30am and 6.30pm. Entry free.

Epic tales

Arshia Sattar and Aparna Jaishankar will hold a session on making *The Ramayana* and *The Mahabharata* educational and thrilling for children, with Aparna narrating stories and Arshia bringing a scholar's insight to them.
At Atta Galatta, Indiranagar, on November 29, starting 4pm. Open to children between 8-15 years. Entry free. Call 9632510126 for details.

Top brass hopeful of resolution at tomorrow's meeting

All India Congress Committee president Mallikarjun Kharge says Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and his deputy D.K. Shivakumar will be called to Delhi to settle the matter on power sharing

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Congress high command, which has remained largely silent till now on the tussle over the Chief Minister's post and power sharing, has decided to call for a meeting of senior leaders, including Rahul Gandhi, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, in New Delhi, to put an end to the uncertainty on leadership change in Karnataka.

Before leaving for Delhi on Thursday, All India Congress Committee president Mallikarjun Kharge said he would call a meeting of senior leaders for a negotiated settlement of the issue of sharing of power, as the ongoing differences seemed to have dented the image of the party and the government.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah departing after the launch of an official programme at the Vidhana Soudha in Bengaluru on Thursday. ALLEN EGENUSE J.

Sources in the Congress indicated that Mr. Siddaramaiah and Mr. Shivakumar were expected to leave for Delhi on Friday.

LEADERSHIP ISSUE

> We should certainly call them and discuss. We will call them, discuss with them and settle the issue....
>
> **MALLIKARJUN KHARGE,** Congress president

Meeting on Saturday?

The crucial meeting is expected to be held on Saturday. It would be attended by Mr. Kharge, Mr. Gandhi, Sonia Gandhi, MP, AICC general secretary in charge of Karnataka Randeep Singh Surjewala and AICC general secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal.

Replying to questions on whether Mr. Siddaramaiah and Mr. Shivakumar would be called to the national capital, Mr. Kharge said, "We should certainly call them and discuss. We will call them, discuss with them and settle the issue.... I will call everyone and discuss. Rahul Gandhi will be part of it, and also other members, including the Chief Minister and the Deputy Chief Minister. After discussing with everyone, a decision will be made," the AICC chief added.

Meanwhile, the Chief Minister said, "I will go to Delhi if the high command calls." Mr. Shivakumar also said he would go to the national capital if summoned by the AICC.

To prepare a plan of action, the Chief Minister reportedly held a meeting with his loyal Ministers, including G. Parameshwara, Satish Jarkiholi, H.C. Mahadevappa, and K. Venkatesh, at his residence on Thursday.

It is believed that Ministers owing allegiance to him told Mr. Siddaramaiah to be ready for a show of strength, use AHINDA card and offer explanation on possible vote bank loss to the party, to the central leaders if the need arose.

Many parleys

Meanwhile, in what appears to be a desperate move, the KPCC chief has been holding parleys with loyalists of the Chief Minister. In the last couple of days, he had met Ministers B. Z. Zameer Ahmed, Satish Jarkiholi, K.J. George, and many MLAs who are identified as close to the Chief Minister.

Sources claimed that Mr. Shivakumar had told the Ministers loyal to Mr. Siddaramaiah that they would be "looked after well" after he became the Chief Minister and sought their support to secure the top post.

However, Ministers Laxmi Hebbalkar, Dinesh Gundu Rao,B.Z. Zameer Ahmed, K.J. George, and H.K. Patil said the ball was in the high command's court. They would abide by its decision.

Parameshwara: Take Cabinet into confidence

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The leadership issue is learnt to have come up for discussion at the Cabinet meeting on Thursday, with Home Minister G. Parameshwara seeking clarity on the issue, and asking the two leaders to take the Cabinet into confidence.

Sources said that the Home Minister pointed out to developments within the party outside and queries from the media to which they were forced to respond.

The sources said that when Dr. Parameshwara sought the permission of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah for a group of senior Ministers to meet the central leadership to discuss the issue, the Chief Minister gave the green signal even as Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar nodded to the idea.

G. Parameshwara

"The Chief Minister informed the Cabinet that AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge had called him and informed of his preference to meet senior Cabinet Ministers. Mr. Shivakumar even offered to take the batch of senior Ministers to the high command," said a source.

Vokkaligara sangha backs DKS, AHINDA support for Siddaramaiah

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A day after Vokkaliga community seer Nirmalanandanatha Swami publicly backed Deputy Chief Minister and KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar's chief ministerial ambition, the Vokkaligara sangha warned the Congress of possible electoral consequences if their leader is not made the Chief Minister.

Stating that the Vokkaliga community supported the Congress in the 2023 Assembly polls, Vokkaligara sangha president L. Srinivas warned, "If he is cheated, then we will teach a fitting lesson to the Congress."

> If he [D.K.Shivakumar] is cheated, then we will teach a fitting lesson to the Congress
>
> **L. SRINIVAS,** Vokkaligara Sangha president

Speaking at a press meet here, Mr. Srinivas said Vokkaligas would launch a protest if the KPCC chief was denied the Chief Minister's post.

Sangha general secretary C.G. Gangadhar said the Congress won more seats in the Vokkaliga-dominated Old Mysore region because of Mr. Shivakumar.

In a counter, Federation of Karnataka Depressed Communities convener K.M. Ramachandrappa said that 60% to 70% of the voters belonged to the AHINDA.

> We will not accept the change of leadership and removal of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah from the post
>
> **K.M. RAMACHANDRAPPA,** Convener, Federation of Karnataka Depressed Communities

The Congress came to power with the support of AHINDA voters. It was not good on the part of the party high command to change the Chief Minister midway, he said. "We will not accept the change of leadership and removal of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah from the post," he warned.

Niranjananda Puri Swami of Kaginele Mutt, seer of the Kuruba community to which Mr. Siddaramaiah belongs, said as per the Constitution, the party legislators should decide who should become the Chief Minister.

Mr. Siddaramaiah's son Yathindra Siddaramaiah, MLC, said in Mysuru that seers should refrain from politics.

He claimed, "Nobody has ever spoken of the power-sharing agreement within the party nor has my father mentioned it."

'BJP will move no-trust motion against Siddaramaiah govt.'

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

The Bharatiya Janata Party, with its NDA partner Janata Dal (Secular), will move a no-confidence motion against the State government led by Siddaramaiah in the next month's Belagavi session, State general secretary of the BJP and former Minister V. Sunil Kumar said on Thursday. If the Congress government falls in the State, the BJP will not stake claim to form the government, he said.

Speaking to mediapersons in Udupi, the Karkala MLA said that in the fight between Mr. Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar over

Karkala MLA V. Sunil Kumar speaking to reporters in Udupi on Thursday. UMESH S SHETTIGAR

change of leadership, the administration in the State had come to a standstill since the past two months.

"About 90% of Ministers are not coming to their offices at the Vidhana Soudha," Mr. Kumar claimed. "This government has lost confidence," he said.

Special package of ₹1,033.60 cr. for flood-hit farmers launched

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government on Thursday launched a special package of ₹1,033.60 crore as additional subsidy to compensate farmers for crop loss due to heavy rainfall and flooding this monsoon. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah formally launched the scheme.

As per the SDRF norms, input subsidy of ₹1,218.03 crore had already been provided to farmers that would take the total to ₹2,251.63 crore. Crops on about 14.58 lakh hectares had been damaged and the total loss had been estimated to be around ₹10,748 crore.

The Centre has set up inter-departmental team, which is expected to visit the State shortly.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and other Ministers at a press conference in Bengaluru on Thursday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

A note from the Chief Minister's Office said that the additional subsidy had been launched to mitigate farmers' woes by increasing compensation from ₹8,500 per hectare to ₹17,000 per hectare in rain-fed area and in irrigated land from ₹17,000 per hectare to ₹25,000 per hectare. For area under annual multiple crop, compensation has been increased from ₹22,500 per hectare to ₹31,000 per hectare. The compensation is capped for two hectares.

State government approves policy for iron ore exports from non-major ports in Karnataka

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

To clear the export of iron ore from minor ports in Karnataka, the State government on Thursday approved Karnataka Non-major Ports Iron Ore Handling Policy, 2025, for handling of iron ore through non-major ports under the Karnataka Maritime Board.

Amid large-scale violation of rules in extraction of iron ore and large quantities of iron ore export illegally, the State government had banned export of iron ore from 10 non-major ports in 2010 under the Karnataka Ports (Landing and Shipping Fees) Act, 1961. However, in 2022, the Supreme Court allowed export of iron ore from these ports strictly under the policy of Indian government. It permitted export of iron ore through ports in Karnataka as is being done in the rest of the country.

A file photo of the Old Mangalore Port. A State government order in 2010 banned the export of iron ore from the Karwar, Tadadi, Bhatkal, Malpe, Old Mangalore, Belekeri, Honnavar, Kundapur, Hangarkatta, and Padubidri ports.

"The policy is a standard operating procedure for the export of iron ore from these ports. The policy will come into effect prospectively. Since a number of cases are pending in courts and the Lokayukta report, it cannot be implemented with retrospective effect," Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil explained in the post-Cabinet briefing.

The 2010 order

The 2010 order had banned export of iron ore from ports in Karwar, Tadadi, Bhatkal, Malpe, Old Managlore, Belekeri, Honnavar, Kundapura, Hangarkatta and Padubidri. In all, Karnataka has 13 non-major ports.

Incidentally, Belekeri port hit headlines during the peak of illegal transportation and export of iron ore as several lakh tonnes of confiscated iron ore was reported "missing", which figured in the Lokayukta report too. It was believed that with the connivance of officials, the iron ore had, in fact, been exported.

Revenue generation

According to the Cabinet note, the policy would result in revenue earning to the government through registration fees, license fees (for allotment of land for handling iron ore), wharfage charges, minimum guarantee deposits, security deposits, penalties for non-compliance, or shortfalls and a recurring pollution mitigation, safety and supervision fee of ₹13 per tonne.

Maize crisis: Govt. to call meeting of distilleries and ethanol manufacturers

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In the light of the maize crisis in Karnataka, the State government has convened a meeting of distilleries and ethanol manufacturers on Friday to discuss the issue even as it is considering purchase of one lakh tonnes for Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF).

Maize, is one of the raw materials in the manufacture of ethanol.

"Ideally, there should not have been a problem. The State's ethanol manufacturing capabilities and allocation has been reduced by the Centre. Unfortunately, it has been reduced to 20%. The Centre is ignoring the problems of the farmers," Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H.K. Patil told pressperson at the post-Cabinet briefing.

H.K. Patil ALLEN EGENUSE J.

Stating that maize farmers had been affected on multiple fronts, Mr. Patil said that while ethanol allocation had come down, the maize procurement had fallen by 10 %. "Earlier, maize procurement was at 40%, which has been brought down to 30%. In fact, procurement rate should be raised to 50%," he said.

Other decisions

Among other decisions, the Cabinet cleared allotment of five acres to Murugodu Bangle Producers Foundation, a special purpose vehicle that will create common facility centre. A sum of ₹1.49 crore, which is 15% of ₹9.95 crore, has been approved as the State's share.

The Cabinet also approved ₹143.6 crore towards operation and management by a private agency, which will be identified, of State Data Centre, Near Disaster Recovery Centre, and Disaster Recovery Centre, for a period of five years.

Mr. Patil said that approval was given for ₹74.10 crore to build 114 Ayushman Health Centres, ₹200 crore towards construction of check dams and lake development in Kalyana Karnataka region, ₹200 crore for a bridge-cum-barrage across Sharavati river to prevent salt water from entering the river at Mulkod in Uttara Kannada district.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients intend to purchase the Schedule Property from its owner Sri. N Raghavendra son of Sri. N B Narayan Rao. The Owner represents that he is the absolute owner of the Schedule Property and apart from him there are no other person/s, having any right, title or claim over the Schedule Property and the Schedule Property is not mortgaged, or encumbered in any manner. The Owner represents that he has not entered into any MoU, Agreement of Sale or any sort of arrangement with any other person/s, with respect to the Schedule Property or part thereof. If any person/s having objection/s or claims may with documentary evidence lodge their objection/claims within 7 (Seven) days from the date of this notice with the undersigned, failing which, my clients shall proceed with the purchase of the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Residential Apartment No. 001, bearing E-Katha No. 5858639571, Property No. GF-59/2 (Old PID No. 49-92-59/2) in the Ground Floor of "SRI-SAILAM APARTMENTS" measuring 1352 Sq. Feet (125.60 Sq. Meters) of Super Built-up area together with one covered car parking in the basement/stilt level and 573.93 Sq. Feet of undivided share in the land bearing Municipal No.59, situated at 4th Main, Gavipuram Extension, K G Nagar, Bangalore in all measuring 12,580 Sq. Feet and bounded on the: -East by :1st Main Road and Presently 4th Main Road, West by: Remaining Portion of the same Property belonging to Sri. K V Sampath and Sri. Vijayasarathi; North by :Private Property; South by :Private Property;Bangalore

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Date: 28-11-2025

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDER (Only through kpp portal)

BWSSB invites tenders from registered Agencies for the following works.

Office of the Chief Engineer (East), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bangalore-560 009.

Sl. No.	Division	IFT Number	Amount put to tender / EMD Amount	Last date & time for receipt of tender	Date & time for opening of tender
1	(East-2)	BWSSB/2025-26/WS/ WORK_INDENT2604 (Reserved for Category-I)	Rs.63,31,100/- / Rs.63,500/-	05.12.2025 upto 4.00 pm	06.12.2025 at 4.00 pm
2		BWSSB/2025-26/WS/ WORK_INDENT2605	Rs.64,27,500/- / Rs.1,28,600/-		
3		BWSSB/2025-26/WS/ WORK_INDENT2606 (Reserved for ST Category)	Rs.36,81,820/- / Rs.36,850/-		
4		BWSSB/2025-26/WS/ WORK_INDENT2607	Rs.18,86,900/- / Rs.47,200/-		
5		BWSSB/2025-26/WS/ WORK_INDENT2603 (Reserved for SC Category)	Rs.37,69,000/- / Rs.37,700/-		

Sd/- Executive Engineer (East-2)

The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**. For further details contact the undersigned office during working hours.

DIPR/CP/4056/AKAR/2025-26

Minor girl found dead

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Kaggalipura police have arrested a 24-year-old labourer for killing a minor girl and dumping the body in an isolated place. The victim, Kavana, a high school student, was living with her cousin.

The accused has been identified as Appu alias Pappi, a resident of Thattaguppe in Kaggalipura and daily wager.

The police said that the incident took place on Wednesday night when she had gone to the farm house. Appu allegedly followed her, strangled her and then dumped the body in an isolated place. Appu who reportedly had an affair with Kavana's cousin. Kavana was not happy with Appu's frequesnt visits to their house. She had also warned him to stay away from her cousin which allegedly enraged him.

Woman lodges sexual abuse plaint with CM against MLA

Pinarayi Vijayan forwards the complaint to Kerala Police Chief Ravada Chandrasekhar for further action; in a response on social media, Rahul Mamkootathil says he would fight the case legally

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

A woman who had alleged recurrent sexual exploitation, coerced medical termination of pregnancy, and death threats by Palakkad MLA Rahul Mamkootathil met Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan at his office here on Thursday and filed a complaint against the legislator.

The Congress had suspended him from its primary membership in August after the accusations of serial sexual misconduct went viral on social and traditional media, putting the Opposition United Democratic Front (UDF) on the defensive. The party had also removed him from his post as State Youth Congress president.

Police use water cannons to disperse BJP activists demanding resignation of Rahul Mamkootathil in August. K. K. MUSTAFAH

Forwarded to SPC

Officials said Mr. Vijayan has forwarded the complaint to State Police Chief (SPC) Ravada Chandrasekhar for further action. They said the police might seek court's sanction to record the complainant's statement in camera before a magistrate under Section 183 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS). In August, the State Police Crime Branch registered a zero First Information Report, which paved the way for a prefatory investigation into the allegations. However, the investigation appeared to hit a dead-end due to the glaring lack of a cognisable complaint, a serious prosecutorial lacuna according to investigators.

Mr. Mamkootathil responded on social media that he would fight the case legally "so long as I'm confident of being not guilty". He said he would reveal everything in the court.

Karnataka govt. tightens grip on sale of fake drugs and cosmetics

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

To bring in stringent measures against the sale of fake drugs or cosmetics in the State, the Karnataka government on Thursday approved increased penalty that can run up to life imprisonment for peddling fake drugs or cosmetics.

As per the amendment proposed to the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, the burden of proof will now rest on the person from whom drugs or cosmetics are seized.

Prison term

If found guilty, the prison term could extend up to life imprisonment as some of the penalties have been extended to make it stringent.

The amendment to the Act will be moved in the coming Winter Session of the legislature to be held in Belagavi.

Onus on seller

The Act will put the onus on the seller to prove that the product – drugs or cosmetics – are not fake.

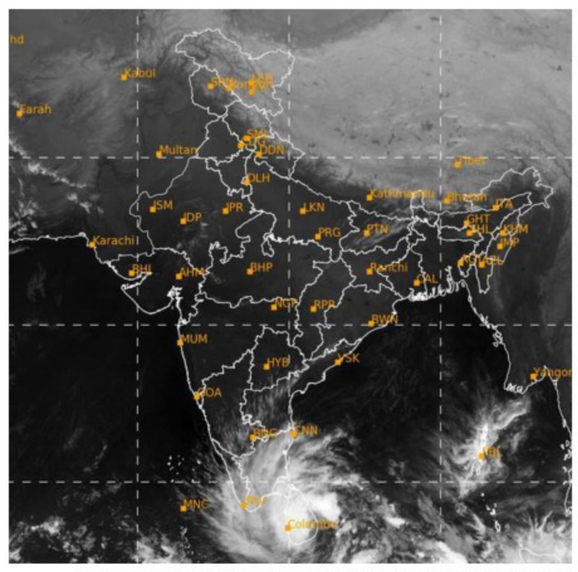
The peddling of fake drugs and cosmetics will now be treated as cognisable offence and non-bailable.

Powers to officers

The proposed Act also seeks to provide powers to designated officers from the Central Drug Laboratory and Director of Drugs and Cosmetics.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.15 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Kerala. Thunderstorm with lightning/gusty winds likely at isolated places over Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Cold wave conditions likely at isolated places over Punjab

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	30.4	14.7	Kozhikode	—	33.4	24.6
Ahmedabad	—	31.5	20.8	Kurnool	—	31.3	19.7
Aizawl	—	26.2	14.4	Lucknow	—	27.5	11.7
Allahabad	—	27.0	11.5	Madurai	—	27.4	22.6
Bengaluru	—	25.2	16.7	Mangaluru	—	32.0	22.4
Bhopal	—	26.6	15.0	Mumbai	—	33.6	22.0
Bhubaneswar	—	28.2	13.5	Mysuru	—	25.0	17.2
Chandigarh	—	27.2	8.0	New Delhi	—	25.7	8.3
Chennai	—	30.5	25.7	Patna	—	28.1	16.7
Coimbatore	—	28.8	19.2	Port Blair	—	29.5	25.9
Dehradun	—	27.2	8.2	Puducherry	—	29.4	22.5
Gangtok	—	21.0	10.3	Pune	—	30.5	16.8
Goa	—	33.0	22.5	Raipur	—	27.9	16.2
Guwahati	—	29.0	15.5	Ranchi	—	25.7	8.4
Hubballi	—	29.0	16.0	Shillong	—	21.6	9.4
Hyderabad	—	28.3	17.7	Shimla	—	18.8	7.5
Imphal	—	26.5	15.3	Srinagar	—	13.7	-4.4
Jaipur	—	25.2	16.0	Thiruvananthapuram	—	30.9	24.0
Kochi	—	30.2	25.4	Tiruchi	—	30.1	23.0
Kohima	—	21.4	10.0	Vijayawada	—	29.0	21.0
Kolkata	—	28.7	17.4	Visakhapatnam	—	29.7	22.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO₂	NO₂	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.22	..42	30	... 275	...184	
Bengaluru	.10	..39	39	... 124	...109	
Chennai	.15	..29	25	... 231	...131	
Delhi	.71	123	68	... 417	...390	
Hyderabad	...4	..28	95	... 170	...149	
Kolkata	...5	..80	18	... 238	...170	
Lucknow	.11	..57	24	... 244	...160	
Mumbai	.13	..86	52	... 236	...126	
Pune	.14	..71	89	... 184	...177	
Visakhapatnam	..—	..—	..2	..... —	.....—	.....

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Noida, Uttar Pradesh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 391 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Shillong, Meghalaya recorded a healthy AQI score of 9

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO₂: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO₂: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

HC: Assistant Commissioner can evict unauthorised persons to ensure secured residence for senior citizen

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Assistant Commissioners, as a measure to ensure a senior citizen secure dwelling, can resort to eviction of persons from the unauthorised possession of the residence belonging to the senior citizen under the provisions of the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007, said the High Court of Karnataka.

Pointing out that the definition of "maintenance" under Section 2(b) of the Act specifically includes within it provision for residence, the court said that it cannot be said that the ACs acted beyond their jurisdiction if it was for providing residence under the provision of the Act.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna passed the order while dismissing a petition filed by a 45-year-old woman who had questioned the Ballari Assistant Commissioner's June 2025 order for evicting her from the residence belonging to her 73-year-old mother-in-law.

The mother in-law had filed a petition before the AC complaining that the daughter-in-law had compelled her to live in a small out-house with her aged husband and was not allowing entry to the house which the mother-in-law had purchased from her own earnings.

The AC, who acts as an authorised tribunal under the Act, after securing report on the status of the mother-in-law and details of the residential build, ordered eviction of daughter in-law.

Citing apex court's interpretation of the provisions of the Act, as this law has no specific provision empowering the AC to pass order of eviction in favour of senior citizens, the High Court said even High Court of Madhya Pradesh had recognised that ensuring a senior citizen secure dwelling may in necessary circumstances require the removal to obstruct such security, which includes eviction of persons in authorised possession of the property of senior citizen.

Stating that no perversity or infirmity in the order passed by the AC, the court said acts of the petitioner amount to depriving the senior citizen of dignified access to her own home, as the house is in the possession of the daughter-in-law.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **Mrs. MADHUMITA NEOGI**, also known as **MADHUMITA GUHA MAJUMDER**, aged 62, D/o Lt. HARIDAS GUHA MAJUMDER & W/o Lt. SURANJAN NEOGI, residing at 110, Aditya Tussar Apartment, 17/9A, Maruti Chambers, Roopena Agrahara, Madivala, B'lore-560068 Aadhar no-2095 3863 6832, state that after the demise of my husband Lt. Suranjan Neogi, I am using my name as **MADHUMITA GUHA MAJUMDER**, I have also changed my signature from **MADHUMITA NEOGI** to **MADHUMITA GUHA MAJUMDER**. For all Official /Bank transaction, I am using my name and signature as Madhumita Guha Majumder. Both **MADHUMITA NEOGI** and **MADHUMITA GUHA MAJUMDER** are my Name and Signature. In this regard, I have sworn Affidavit on dt-17/10/2025 before NOTARY S.R. NANJUNDA SWAMY, Bengaluru.

PUBLIC NOTICE

On behalf of my client I am examining the documents of title of residential Immovable Property bearing BBMP **No.79/11,** (old No.79/1C) **Nandidurga Road, Bangalore-560046,** measuring East : 45 Feet, West : 35 Feet, North by 59 Feet, South 59 Feet, total site area **2360 Square Feet**, with a Ground and First Floor, including mortgage deed with Deutsche Bank, and the registered Joint Development Agreement of Mr. Mohammed Aziz Ullah, S/o. Mr. (Late) Mohammed Rasool @ Mohammed Shaifulla.

If any person/s are having any objections or claims in respect of the above sale the same be lodged with documentary proof within **7 days** from today failing which my client will get the sale deed registered and it shall be deemed there are no claims of any nature.

K.M.A.PERES, VIREN MICHAEL PERES,
Advocates, No.46/1-1, Wheeler Road, Bangalore- 560005, Mobile: 9845000414.
E-mail. peresoffice@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Mrs. SIRIGIREDDY KALYANI, W/o. Mr. Obulareddy Veera Bhargavareddy has interested in purchasing the schedule property mentioned hereunder for a valuable consideration from its owners M/s. WELCOME GROUP REP. by its Partner, Mr. BALU MANICKAM having its registered office at No. # 18, 1st A Main, 1st Floor, Ganganagar Extension, Bangalore – 560 032 and Mr. M.KANDASWAMY, S/o. Late Mr. Manickam, residing at No. 34, 1st Cross, Srinivas Reddy Layout, Kithaganoor Main Road, Bhattarahalli New Extension, Bangalore – 560049.

If any persons, banks, financial institutions etc., having any claims, right, title and interest whatsoever over the schedule property may forward their objections to the undersigned in writing with supporting documents of your such claims, within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. Failing which it will be deemed that there are no claims, right, title and interest by anybody and my client will proceed for completion of sale transaction and thereafter no claims will be considered.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Site No. 3 bearing Property Id. 150200203101120801, Khata No. 2440/4/3, in the layout FORTJALA formed in the converted land bearingSy. No. 4, situated at Chikkajala Village, Jala Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, measuring East to West 13.54+13.74/2 Mtrs and North to South 9.14 Mtrs, totally measuring 126.38 Sqmts. The Site is bounded as follows:On the East by:9 M Road;On the West by:Site No.15 and 14;On the North by :Site No.2; and On the South by :Site No.4.

MANJUNATHA & ASSOCIATES
K. N. MANJUNATHA CHARY, ROOPA. B, & B.N. JAGADISH KUMAR, Advocates, #1010, 2nd Floor, 7th A Main Road, 1st Block, Koramangala, Bangalore - 34, Mob: 9845965626, 7406090832
Bangalore, Date : 27-11-2025

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE No.B/TRD. 2025-26/29 Dt: 20.11.2025

The undersigned behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tender for the following work

Item of Work	Approx. Value
Repair & overhauling	Rs.35,30,504.13/-

of Cummins make Engine model NTA 855 R-TW-42 (ESN No. 25389401).

Period of completion : 60 Days.

Last Date for Submission of bids: **Upto 15:00 Hrs. on 12.12.2025**

For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/TRD
PUB/682/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26 **Bengaluru**

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South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Corrigendum-1 to Tender notice No. 21/2025/SBC Dated. 24.10.2025 only for Tender No. L8256690 Tender No.L8255384B is opened.

Description of work	Qty.
Spares of CUMMINS	29 Nos.

Due Date of Closing

Existing	Revised
24.11.2025	08.12.2025 (10:30 AM)

For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**

Senior Divisional Material Manager/
PUB/684/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26 **Bengaluru**

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South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY @SWRAILWAYHQ @sw_railways

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public are hereby informed that my clients Mr.Imran Nadeem and Mrs.Nasira Taj N, are intending to purchase the below mentioned Schedule Property from its owner **Smt. YASHODHA,** W/o Sri Ugregowda, Aged about 45 years residing at #32/1, Rathna Nagara, Chikka Gollarahalli, Vishwaneedam Banaglore-560091.

If any person/s or Institution, Authority, etc., have got any right ,title, claim and interest of whatsoever in nature on the Schedule Property, are hereby required to communicate the same along with supporting documents to me at my office within **seven(7) Days** from this day. Otherwise, the Sale Transaction will be completed without any reference or regard to any such purported claim or interest, which shall be deemed to have been waived to all intents and purposes.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

The property situated in Bengaluru East Taluk, Bidarahalli Hobli, within the limits of Kannur Grama Panchayat, being a portion of the land bearing Survey No. 21/124 of Yerrappanahalli Village, which was converted from agricultural to non-agricultural residential purposes by 'The Karnataka Class-D Employees House Building Co-operative Society Limited' vide Order No. ALNSR:30/72-73 dated 17-03-1975. The Society thereafter formed a residential layout as per the approved plan.

Out of the said layout, Site originally bearing Khata No. 2623 and presently bearing Khata No. 2623/B1/114 as per Kannur Grama Panchayat records, corresponding to Property No. 150200-400200120122, situated in 1st Block, being Vacant Site No. 114 (One Hundred and Fourteen), is measuring from east to west by 40 feet (12.20 meter) and north to south by 56.6 feet (17.22 meter) totally measuring to an extent of 2260 sq feet(209.96 sq.meter) and bounded on the:

East by :- Site No.115
West by :- Site No.113
North by :- Road
South By :- Site No.125.

S. VIVEKANANDA,Advocate,
VGB Associates, Bunglow No.3, Jayamahal Palace Hotel, Jayamahal Road, Bengaluru-560 046, Ph: 9845428653.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is inform to the General Public, Financial Institutions and Statutory Authorities that our clients

Sri. V. MURALIDHARAN, S/o. Late Visvanathan, Aged about 65 years, **AND Sri. SREERAM VISVANATHAN**, S/o. Late Visvanathan, Aged about 59 years, both are R/at No:194, 3rd Cross, Cambridge Layout, Ulsoor, Bangalore East, HAL 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560008, **AND Sri. SHYAM SUNDAR.B**, S/o. Late Balaji, Aged about 66 years, R/at Flat No:009, Pine Block Alliance Orchid Springs 54 Water, Canal Road, Near Drj.Hospital Korattur, Korattur, Tiruvallur, Tamilnadu-600076, jointly entered into an unregistered **Agreement of Sale dated 11-11-2025** to purchase the below described Schedule Property from **Sri. VIJAYAKUMAR.M.,** Aged about 55 years, No.1, 3rd cross, Cambridge Layout, Someshwarapura, Halasuru, Bangalore North, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560008, for a valuable consideration.

Further, it is informed that the above said **Sri. VIJAYAKUMAR.M.** has purchased the schedule property from Sri.Ashwani Kumar Kinger and Smt.Neeta Kinger through a Sale Deed dated:11/10/2010 registered as Document No.INR-1-00816-2010-11 of Book-I and stored in C.D.No.INRD17, before the Sub-Registrar Indiranagar, Bengaluru.

Persons objecting for the aforesaid ownership rights vest with VIJAYAKUMAR.M or proposed purchase or having any right, claim, interest, charges on the Schedule Property may lodge their objections and/or claims with the undersigned counsel along with supporting documentary evidence within **Twenty One (21)** days from the date of this publication and objections and/or claims received thereafter will not be binding on our clients, and our client will proceed to purchase the below mentioned property by registering the Sale Deed as if there are no claimants/objections.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the residential property bearing **BDA Site No.133**, **BBMP Property No.1, PID No.75-37-1**, situated at 3rd Cross, Someshwarapura, **CAMBRIDGE LAYOUT**, Halasur, Bengaluru, measuring **East to West 46.6 Feet, North to South (27.9+36)/2 Feet, totally measuring 1489 Sq.Feet.,** along with residential building standing thereon consisting of **Ground, First and Second Floor totally measuring 3700 Sq.Ft., of super built up area** with RCC Roofed, Mosaic Flooring building and bounded on :- East by : Road, West by : Property No.163, North by : Property No.194, South by : Road.

G. MANJUNATHA
JAGRUTI LAW ASSOCIATES,
ADVOCATES & SOLICITORS,
No.34, 2nd Floor, HHS & HMS Complex, Cubbonpet Main Road, Bengaluru - 560002.
Mob: 9900110203.
E-mail: manjugowdag@gmail.com
Bangalore, Date: 27-11-2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that, my clients **Sri. Venkataswamy R s/o. Ramaiah,** aged about 57 years, Residing at No.59, Kaval Hosahalli, Chandapura Road, Anekal Bengaluru 562 106, is the absolute Owner of the Schedule property having got registered Release Deed executed by Smt.Chandramma, Smt.Madamma and Smt.Sumithramma in favour of Sri.R.Venkataswamy, Sri.R.Narayanaswamy and duly registered as document no.1063/2019-20 in the office of the Sub-Registrar Anekal, Bangalore on 08.08.2016, My clients Lost / misplaced **1).** Original Sale Deed dated 12.08.1964 duly registered as Doc. No.1498/1964-65, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal in respect of Syno.82/1 measuring 1 acre **2).** Original Sale Deed dated 02.04.1967 executed by Sri.T.Pillaiah in favour of Sri.M.Ramaiah and duly registered as Doc. No.39/1967-68, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Anekal, in respect of Sy. no.82/1 measuring 23 guntas, pertaining to the schedule property and they have already lodged online complaint to that effect vide E-Lost Report No.1926151 dated 26.11.2025.

Any person/s are in possession of the aforesaid original document may return the same to under mentioned Advocate or anyone having any claim over the said property or any other claims by any person/s Nationalized banks, MNC Banks Private Banks, Co-Operative Banks any Financial institutions Governed by the RBI Rules may lodge their objections in writing within **7 days** from this day to the under mentioned Advocate. Failing which the present IDBI Bank will go ahead to finance the same for the purchase of the above said property by Prospective buyer/s and Bank going to create mortgage in favor Prospective buyer/s and the said bank on the basis of Certified copies of the above said two (2) documents for creation of Equitable Mortgage/Registered Mortgage.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the land bearing **survey no.82/1,** measuring **1 acre 23 guntas,** situated in **Haldenahalli village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal taluk, Bangalore Urban District** and bounded on the:

East by : Private Property,
West by : Land in Sy.No.81,
North by : Private Property,
South by : Land belonging to Hanumanthappa.

N. Eshwarprasath, Advocate
Krishnaraj Law Associates & Legal Consultanats
No. 8 B, 2nd floor, Hazarth Hameed Shah Complex (Govt. Silk Exchange Building) Near Ulsoor Gate Police Station Cubbonpet Main Road, Bangalore-02
Email Id: eshwarprasath0015@gmail.com
Mob. No. 98450 50757

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that my client **M/s. NAVA SKANDA PROJECTS,** Represented by its Partners **1. Mr. K. ETHIRAJULU NAIDU 2. Mr. MOHAN REDDY S, 3. Mr. PURNACHANDRA.K & 4. Mr. K. CHANDRAKANTH** intends to enter into Joint development agreement with **NETHRAVATHI N**, Daughter of Sri. N Nagaraja for the joint development of Immovable Property bearing **Converted Survey Nos.54/2 & 55/1** situated at **HOODI VILLAGE,** Krishnarajapuram Hobli, earlier Bangalore South Taluk, Presently Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, Bangalore **totally measuring 5 Acres 25 Guntas** and 7 Gunats Karab

Any Persons having any right over the said property may lodge their objections/claims with documentary evidence within 10 days from this day to the undersigned.

S.MURTHY
Advocate
SURIYALAW ASSOCIATES,
Flat No.303, 3rd Floor, Motati Meadows, Nagavarapalya Main Road,
Bangalore-560 093.
Mob - 98450 87191 (Advocate)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are informed that my client **M/s. NAVA SKANDA PROJECTS,** Represented by its Partners **1. Mr. K. ETHIRAJULU NAIDU 2. Mr. MOHAN REDDY S, 3. Mr. PURNACHANDRA.K & 4. Mr. K. CHANDRAKANTH** intends to enter into Joint development agreement with **Mr. H N PRASAD** Son of Late. Sri. H D Narayana Reddy and his family members for the joint development of Immovable Property bearing New **Survey Nos.54/3 Old Survey No.54/2** situated at **HOODI VILLAGE,** Krishnarajapuram Hobli, earlier Bangalore South Taluk, Presently Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, Bangalore **totally measuring 4 Acres 11 Guntas** and 2 Gunats Karab

Any Persons having any right over the said property may lodge their objections/ claims with documentary evidence within 10 days from this day to the undersigned.

S.MURTHY
Advocate
SURIYALAW ASSOCIATES,
Flat No.303, 3rd Floor, Motati Meadows, Nagavarapalya Main Road,
Bangalore-560 093.
Mob - 98450 87191 (Advocate)

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-PROCUREMENT (IREPS) TENDER NOTICE No. HE-21-2025-26

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India invites E-Tenders (IREPS) for the following works.

SN	Name of work	Approx. value
1	Enhancement of substation capacity from 160 KVA to 315 KVA due to increased connected load at Koppal station over Hubballi division.	Rs. 61,39,128.70
2	Improvement to HT/LT system, control panels and connected works at Londa station under Hubballi division.	Rs. 28,44,552.51
3	Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) of Diesel Generator Sets for a period of 04 years under Hubballi division.	Rs. 1,07,91,509.90
4	Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract for water coolers installed at various stations over Hubballi Division for a period of 04 years.	Rs. 15,05,538.24

Last Date for Submission of bids: **Upto 11:00 Hrs. on 20.12.2025**

For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/General Hubballi
PUB/681/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26

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PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the General Public that my client has negotiated with one **Mr. Sanjay Narasimha Shetty,** S/o. Late Tonse Narasimha Shetty, rep. by his GPA holder **Mr. Pradeep Narasimha Shetty** S/o. Late Tonse Narasimha Shetty, R/at No.B-15, Crystal Colony, 2nd Floor, Sonawala Agiary Marg, Mumbai-400 016 for purchase of the property described in the schedule herebelow, on his representation that he is the absolute owner of the same. Any person/s having any claim, right, title or interest of whatsoever manner with regard to the Schedule Property or anybody opposing the sale transaction may lodge such claim or objection, in writing with documentary proof to the undersigned **within 7 days** from the date of this Notice, failing which my clients would proceed to complete the sale transaction, presuming that there are no valid claims or objections.

SCHEDULE:

All that piece and parcel of the **property bearing Site No.1340, Khatha No.1454/1421/1340, ePID No.3632951354, situated at Judicial Layout, Allalasandra, Chikkabommasandra and Jakkur Plantation Villages, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, formed by the Karnataka State Judicial Department Employees House Building Co-operative Society Ltd, measuring East to West: 80 feet; North to South: 50 feet; totally measuring 4000 Sq. feet** and bounded on:- **East by :** Road; **West by :** Site No.1329; **North by :** Site No.1339, **South by :** Site No.1341.

Bangalore Date: 27.11.2025
NARASIMHAMURTHY A S, Advocate
No.56/A, 3rd Cross, 24th Main, J. P. Nagar 2nd Phase, Bangalore-78 Ph: 9886434287

PUBLIC NOTICE

We are undertaking an investigation of the title in relation to certain immovable properties more fully described in the '**Schedule**' hereto and hereinafter collectively referred to as '**Schedule Properties**'. The said title due diligence is being conducted for and on behalf of our Client who is desirous of acquiring the Schedule Properties. The persons detailed in the table hereinbelow ('**Owners**') have represented to our Client that they own the lands comprised in the Schedule Properties in the manner detailed therein and that they have unrestricted rights of alienation over the same.

Notice is hereby given to the general public that any person/s other than the Owners, asserting any right, title, charge, lien, claim/s or any interest whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Properties are hereby called upon to submit to the undersigned, their claim/s, if any, over the Schedule Properties or submit their objections, if any, to the aforementioned transaction. The said claim/s or objections must be in writing, together with documentary proof to support such claim/s or objections and must be delivered to us at the address given below within a period of **10 (ten) days** from the date of publication of this Notice. If no such claim/s or objections are received, it shall be deemed that no one else other than the Owners have any right, title, interest or claim whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Properties and our Client would be at liberty to proceed with the said transaction in connection with the Schedule Properties.

SCHEDULE

(Description of the Schedule Properties)

All that piece and parcel of immovable properties bearing Survey Nos. 37/1, 49/1, 50/1, 51/1, 52/1, all situated at Chikkaralagere Village, Sulibele Hobli, Hosakote Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District and lands bearing Survey Nos. 49/7B and 49/8, both situated at Thammarasanahalli Village, Sulibele Hobli, Hosakote Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District, detailed in the table hereinbelow:

Sl No.	Survey Number	Extent	Boundaries				Present Owner
			East	West	North	South	
1.	Land bearing Survey No.37/1 (Chikkarlagere Village)	16 Guntas	Land bearing Survey No. 37/2	Lands bearing Survey Nos. 41/3, 41/4, 41/5 and 41/6	Land bearing Survey No. 39	Kaluve	Mr. Ajay Kumar H. S, son of Shankarananda.
2.	Portion of land bearing Survey No. 49/1 (Chikkarlagere Village)	11 Guntas	Remaining portion of Survey No. 49/1	Land bearing Survey No. 63	Lands bearing Survey No. 64/1 and 48/1	Land bearing Survey No. 52/1	Mr. Abdul Khalil, son of Late Sheik Umar Sab. Mrs. Shahin Taj, Mr. Amjad Pasha, Mrs. Roohin Taj, Mrs. Parajanataj (children of Mr. Abdul Khalil)
3.	Portion of land bearing Survey No. 50/1 (Chikkarlagere Village)	11 Guntas	Remaining portion of Land bearing Survey No. 50/1	Land bearing Survey No. 49/2	Land bearing Survey No. 48/1	Land bearing Sy No. 51/1	
4.	Portion of land bearing Survey No. 51/1 (Chikkarlagere Village)	4.75 Guntas	Remaining portion of land bearing Survey No. 51/1	Land bearing Sy No. 52/2	Land bearing Sy No. 50/1	Land bearing Sy No. 51/3	
5.	Portion of land bearing Survey No. 52/1 (Chikkarlagere Village)	13 Guntas	Remaining portion of land bearing Survey No. 52/1	Land bearing Survey No. 63	Land bearing Survey No. 49/1	Land bearing Survey No. 53	
6.	Land bearing Survey No.49/7B (Tammarasanahalli Village)	8 Guntas	Land bearing Survey No. 50/1	Land bearing Survey No. 49/7A	Lands bearing Survey Nos. 50/1 and 49/7C	Kaluve	Mr. Anjanappa, son of Munipedda Thimmaiah.
7.	Land bearing Survey No.49/8 (Tammarasanahalli Village)	8 Guntas	Land bearing Survey No. 49/2	Land bearing Survey No. 48/3	Land bearing Survey No. 41/8 and Kaluve	Land bearing Survey No. 49/1	Mr. Afzal Khan S A, son of Aseef Khan.
	Total Extent	**01 Acre 31.75 Guntas**					

Sd/-
Mr. SRINIVAS B.R., Partner ,
DSK Legal,
Prestige Loka, No. 201, 2nd Floor, No. 7/1 & 7/7,
Brunton Road, Bengaluru – 560025, Tel: 080-69548770

Date : 28.11.2025
Place : Bengaluru

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Mrs. SIRIGIREDDY KALYANI, W/o. Mr. Obulareddy Veera Bhargavareddy has interested in purchasing the schedule property mentioned hereunder for a valuable consideration from its owners M/s. WELCOME GROUP REP. by its Partner, Mr. BALU MANICKAM having its registered office at No. # 18, 1st A Main, 1st Floor, Ganganagar Extension, Bangalore – 560 032 and Mr. M.KANDASWAMY, S/o. Late Mr. Manickam, residing at No. 34, 1st Cross, Srinivas Reddy Layout, Kithaganoor Main Road, Bhattarahalli New Extension, Bangalore – 560049.

If any persons, banks, financial institutions etc., having any claims, right, title and interest whatsoever over the schedule property may forward their objections to the undersigned in writing with supporting documents of your such claims, within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. Failing which it will be deemed that there are no claims, right, title and interest by anybody and my client will proceed for completion of sale transaction and thereafter no claims will be considered.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Site No. 3 bearing Property Id. 150200203101120801, Khata No. 2440/4/3, in the layout FORTJALA formed in the converted land bearingSy. No. 4, situated at Chikkajala Village, Jala Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk, Bangalore Urban District, measuring East to West 13.54+13.74/2 Mtrs and North to South 9.14 Mtrs, totally measuring 126.38 Sqmts. The Site is bounded as follows:On the East by:9 M Road;On the West by:Site No.15 and 14;On the North by :Site No.2; and On the South by :Site No.4.

MANJUNATHA & ASSOCIATES
K. N. MANJUNATHA CHARY, ROOPA. B, & B.N. JAGADISH KUMAR, Advocates, #1010, 2nd Floor, 7th A Main Road, 1st Block, Koramangala, Bangalore - 34, Mob: 9845965626, 7406090832
Bangalore, Date : 27-11-2025

Karur Vysya Bank — Smart way to bank

THE KARUR VYSYA BANK LTD

DIVISIONAL OFFICE BUILDING
No.6, 2nd Floor, Shri Vasavi Temple Road, Sajjan Rao Circle, V V Puram, Bangalore - 560004

SAFE DEPOSIT LOCKER BREAK OPEN PUBLIC NOTICE

The following hirers have availed safe deposit locker facility from the following branches and failed to renew the same within the stipulated time, in spite of repeated notices issued to them by **The Karur Vysya Bank Ltd.** Since the hirers have failed to pay the locker rent dues, we are constrained to break open of the said locker on the following dates, at the concerned branch premises at **10.30 AM.**

This Public Notice is to the hirers and also applies to their legal heirs of the deceased if any. A Copy of this Notice is sent by Registered Post with Acknowledgement Due (RPAD) to the Hirers/Legal Heirs to pay the total locker arrears within the date of break open. The notices are sent to the addresses available last with the branch.

The Karur Vysya Bank Ltd has the authority to change the Break Opening Date without any prior notice.

Sl. No	HIRER/s NAME	Locker No.	Amount Due (₹)	Date of Break open	Branch Address And Contact No.
1	Prakash C P	1313007B015	14,514	09/12/2025	No.254,3rd Main Road, 8th Cross, ISRO Layout, Bangalore–560111 Ph No: 080-26661541 Mob No: 9739099427
2	Reeta Mary E	1313005D006	20,650		
3	Prakash	1313002B029	14,514		
4	Elangovan S	1333004D021	20,650	10/12/2025	No. 387, Sri Raj Archade, 9th Main, 7th Sector, HSR Layout, Bangalore – 560102 Ph No: 080-25722778 Mob No: 9538889170
5	Aslam Basha	1333005B010	8,850		

Place: Bangalore
Date : 27.11.2025

Sd/- Authorized Officer
The Karur Vysya Bank Limited

Burden of proof

SIR's enumeration process of putting the onus on residents for eligibility is flawed

The Election Commission of India (ECI)'s SIR of electoral rolls, being held in 12 States and Union Territories (UT), demands urgent judicial scrutiny due to its implementation and its base methodology. While the Supreme Court continues to hear challenges to the constitutionality of the SIR process pioneered in Bihar, the same flawed approach is being persisted with in other States. Voters are to fill enumeration forms delivered by Block Level Officers (BLO) and match their details against electoral rolls from 2002-2005. Though data from Bihar suggest that the process did not dramatically alter election outcomes, it saw a sharp decline in the gender ratio of the electorate. Other localised distortions also warrant concern. The ECI claims that enumeration forms have been delivered to most electors in the 12 States and UTs, but genuine voters continue to scramble for forms, and confusion persists about the documentation required for enrolment on the draft rolls due next month. The guideline mandating that BLOs visit households appears to be only on paper. The Gauhati High Court, in *Dr. Manmohan Singh* (1999), interpreted requirements in the Representation of the People Act, 1950 expansively: an ordinary resident is a habitual resident with the intention to dwell permanently – whom any reasonable person would accept as a resident of that place. Operating from this principle, the ECI and the judiciary have historically presumed that any resident adult was, by default, a valid voter.

The SIR inverts this presumption. Regardless of having voted earlier, every elector must now prove their legitimacy against old records or documents listed by the ECI. This shifting of the burden, from the state to citizens, risks major disenfranchisement, especially married women and migrants, as in Bihar. As courts have recognised, a strict interpretation of the "ordinarily resident" requirement can vitiate the democratic process. During hearings on Bihar, the Court focused on implementation, placing the onus of protecting genuine voters on party representatives and legal volunteers. It did not examine whether the enumeration form methodology passes constitutional muster, nor did it address persisting inaccuracies in revised rolls – likely a consequence of harried BLOs leaving errors uncorrected. The ECI could have chosen a more patient door-to-door verification to ensure universal adult franchise, complemented by technology-driven deduplication. Instead, it doubled down on an approach that prioritises "purifying" the rolls over protecting the franchise. As the SIR expands, the Court must move beyond procedural oversight to examine the process's constitutional foundations. What is essential is a clear directive restoring the burden of accurate enrolment to the ECI rather than leaving citizens to prove that they belong on rolls they have been on for years.

Domestic trouble

Indian cricket's traditional strengths are now seen as vulnerabilities

As the dust finally settled at Guwahati's Barsapara Cricket Stadium on Wednesday, India's dominance as a Test host was lying in a shambles. Seemingly invincible at home and with an aura that made former Australian captain Steve Waugh refer to India as the final frontier, rival units struggled to stay afloat. But empires do crumble and that reality overwhelmed Rishabh Pant's men as South Africa won the second Test by 408 runs and seized the series 2-0. Last year, the visiting New Zealanders swept the Test series 3-0, and now it is Temba Bavuma's turn to trigger a coup. The South African captain led astutely, both at Kolkata and in Guwahati, and his men's excellent performance reiterated their defending champion status in the ICC World Test Championship. Coach Gautam Gambhir is facing intense scrutiny though under his watch India drew the away Test series in England and won the ICC Champions Trophy and Asia Cup. But the sudden vulnerability in Tests at home sticks out like a sore thumb. It is a fact that over the last few years, personnel have changed and India no longer features Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma, R. Ashwin and Cheteshwar Pujara in Test whites. Meanwhile, Ajinkya Rahane has been dropped and Mohammed Shami is yet to find his way back.

Change is inevitable; but India's downfall in home Tests has been steep. The absence of injured captain Shubman Gill in the second Test was a hard blow, and the rest of the batters failed to raise their game. The adrenaline rush and instant gratification that limited overs cricket offers seem to have dulled the survival instincts of many players. The patience to build a Test innings, the ability to bat for time, and the nuanced way of countering spin, have all waned within the ranks. There is talent in the squad, but the constant shuffling of players and an over-dependence on too many all-rounders have unsettled the playing eleven. Off-spinner Simon Harmer and left-arm speedster Marco Jansen bagged 17 and 12 wickets, respectively, through the series, and exposed chinks in the Indian batting armour. Over the last four decades, India had pedigreed batters at number three and four. Dilip Vengsarkar-Mohinder Amarnath; Rahul Dravid-Sachin Tendulkar; and Pujara-Kohli, have all done duty. It is time to find reinforcements while the batting core will revolve around Gill, K.L. Rahul and Yashasvi Jaiswal. All-rounder Ravindra Jadeja, the last of the stalwarts, is 36. True, transition is a work in progress but spearhead Jasprit Bumrah and his bowling mates must be hoping to have more runs to defend from their batting colleagues.

The Kamalesan case and its simple lesson

Sanjay Hegde

is a Senior Advocate designated by the Supreme Court of India

Every democracy faces moments when two values, both legitimate and which are deeply held, collide. The case of Lieutenant Samuel Kamalesan, dismissed from the Indian Army for refusing to enter the sanctum of his regiment's temple or gurdwara during mandatory parades, is one such clash. The Delhi High Court upheld the dismissal (*Samuel Kamalesan vs Union of India*), and the Supreme Court of India declined to interfere. The legal result is clear. The moral unease remains.

The Court relied on military necessity, discipline and the power given by the Constitution under Article 33. The judgment places his refusal within the frame of disobedience of a lawful command rather than the practice of personal faith. Seen through that narrow lens, the courts acted exactly as they believe they should in military matters: defer to the generals. But that deference should not end the national conversation. When two legitimate values collide – conscience and cohesion – the tragedy is not simply that one side must lose. The tragedy is when institutions forget that accommodation is often possible, and often wise.

The Army's perspective

No one can dismiss what the Indian Army told the Court. A commanding officer in a fixed-class regiment must be accepted by the men he leads into war. Ritual and ceremony, though rooted in faith, serve as instruments of morale. Officers are expected to participate fully to strengthen their bond with the troops. The Indian Army saw the officer's stance as distancing, even if he meant it respectfully. The Court accepted this view. Military ethos demands unity. And no institution in India has preserved unity more honourably than the Indian Army. Whether in Kashmir or in Ladakh, whether rescuing civilians in floods or leading missions of the United Nations, the Indian Army has had a proud record of respecting diversity while building common purpose.

A recent example bears repeating. Colonel Sofiya Qureshi was projected by the Indian Army as the face of Operation Sindoor during press briefings. Her leadership, confidence and professionalism were celebrated nationally. It was a reminder that the Indian Army has often been ahead of civilian society in giving space, honour and responsibility to women and to officers from every faith and region. That inclusive spirit is one of the Indian Army's strengths, and the country takes pride in it. Which is why the Kamalesan case stings.

One cannot read the facts without seeing sincerity in his stance. He attended the parades. He respected the customs. He removed his shoes, tied the turban and stood with his troops. His only request was not to enter the sanctum during ritual worship, a core doctrinal issue for many Protestant Christians. The situation brings to mind Chariots of Fire, the story of Eric Liddell, who would not race on a Sunday. Instead of punishing him, the British Olympic team reorganised its entire plan. He competed on a different day. He won gold. The world did not fall apart. A small accommodation upheld both conscience and team spirit. If an Olympic team could bend, even slightly, to preserve a sincere belief, could the Army top brass not have done so here?

> When duty meets conscience, the real test lies in finding a way for both to coexist

A lost officer and a lost signal

The loss in this case is larger than one career. The Indian armed forces may have lost a potentially fine officer. But, more importantly, the message the decision sends to minority soldiers is unsettling: that even when you attend the parade, stand with the unit, and show respect, your personal limit of conscience counts for nothing.

India's military unity has never been built on majoritarian comfort. It has been built on trust. Sikh, Muslim, Hindu and Christian soldiers fought as one in 1965 and 1971, stood together in Kargil, and serve together today across insurgency zones. Soldiers from minority faiths should never have reason to wonder whether they will be asked to cross a line that their beliefs prohibit.

The courts may not have intended this message. The Indian Army may not have intended it either. But messages do not depend solely on intention.

The judiciary's instinct to defer to the military is understandable. Courts lack the tools, experience and institutional knowledge to second-guess tactical or disciplinary decisions. Yet, it is not correct to say that courts have always stayed away. In the cases of women officers, the Supreme Court forced a fundamental rethink of long-standing military practice. It has intervened in recruitment rules, pension rules and promotion policies. Courts have reshaped the Indian Army before, when equality demanded it.

In this case, the issue was modest: a sincere religious objection to entering a sanctum during worship. The officer did not refuse duty, did not leave his post, and did not weaken the chain of command. He stood respectfully outside, visible to the men he led. The Court could have asked whether the Indian Army's approach satisfied the test of proportionality, or whether a lighter touch could achieve the same purpose while respecting conscience. The judiciary had room, if it had chosen to use it.

The principle in *Bijoe Emmanuel and Ors. vs State Of Kerala and Ors.*, where children who would not sing the national anthem were still protected because they stood respectfully, comes to mind. Justice Chinnappa Reddy reminded the nation: "our tradition teaches tolerance, our philosophy preaches tolerance, and our Constitution practises tolerance." It is difficult not to hear those words echo in this case.

A lesson from Dreyfus

The parallel to the Dreyfus affair is not exact, nor should it be. But the warning it carries is real. France's military, proud and strong, allowed itself to drift into prejudice one small step at a time. Victor Hugo warned that armies lose their edge when they lose their sense of justice. Even the strongest institution can fall into a pattern where ritual becomes rigidity and rigidity becomes exclusion. India must guard against that drift. The Indian Army is respected because it rises above communal and political divides, because its officers lead by example, and because it has never demanded that faith be abandoned at the barracks gate.

The most troubling part of this entire episode is not the Court's judgment, but that the matter reached a court at all. This was a problem that the senior leadership could have solved with one conversation, one directive, or one thoughtful accommodation. Instead, the issue hardened. Positions froze. And the court became the battleground for something that should have been resolved within the walls of the regiment. The Indian Army's greatness has always come from its ability to blend tradition with modernity, discipline with empathy, authority with fairness. In this case, that balance slipped.

The Kamalesan case offers a simple lesson. When duty meets conscience, the real test is not choosing one over the other but finding a way for both to coexist. The Court stayed within its lane. But the Indian Army, which has often shown large-heartedness and flexibility, could have shown it again here. A small accommodation would have strengthened trust, preserved discipline, and affirmed the message that every soldier, of every faith, stands equal in the uniform of India.

Justice Reddy said that "our Constitution practises tolerance". We honour that practice not by forcing uniformity, but by understanding when uniformity need not be forced.

Enabling a modern and future-ready labour ecosystem

Harsha Vardhan Agarwal

is President, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)

November 21, 2025 will go down as a milestone in India's journey of Viksit Bharat – a day when the much awaited Four Labour Codes were made effective by the Government of India. India has taken a giant leap in labour rights with the implementation of four modernised Labour Codes (the Code on Wages, 2019, the Industrial Relations Code, 2020, the Code on Social Security, 2020 and the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions (OSH) Code, 2020). These reforms create a fair, modern and future-ready labour ecosystem – one that empowers workers, enhances enterprise competitiveness and strengthens India's path towards a Viksit Bharat and Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

India's labour framework has evolved gradually over several decades, leading to the creation of multiple pieces of legislation operating across different time periods and economic contexts. While these laws have played an important role in shaping employment relations, the growing size and diversity of India's workforce brought to the fore the need for simplification and consolidation. The Second National Commission on Labour recommended grouping existing laws into broader functional codes. Extensive consultations with industry, employers, trade unions and State governments between 2015 and 2019 led to these four comprehensive Labour Codes being enacted.

A workforce that is both large and young

India today has one of the world's largest and youngest workforces, with more than 643 million workers, and is expected to contribute nearly two-thirds of new global workforce entrants in the coming years, as in the World Economic Forum. Recent labour market trends point to a positive momentum: between 2017-18 and 2023-24, India created 16.83 crore jobs, the unemployment rate declined from 6% to 3.2%, and formal employment expanded significantly.

Given that a large share of India's workforce still remains in the informal sector, the need for a simplified and coherent labour framework has been particularly important to help extend protections and improve productivity of the unorganised sector. The coverage under the Code for Social Security has been extended to the unorganised sector also. These developments reflect the growing dynamism of the economy and emphasise the need for a modern labour regulatory system that supports this trajectory.

> The Four Labour Codes will result in a modern labour regulatory system that supports the growing dynamism of the Indian economy

For workers, the Labour Codes provide a stronger and more consistent set of protections. Universal minimum wages, a national floor wage, mandatory appointment letters, timely payment of wages, and clear rules on working hours –including the 48-hour work week – reinforce fairness and security. The OSH Code's emphasis on safety committees, free preventive health check-ups and improved workplace standards strengthens the focus on well-being and productivity.

The Code on Social Security, 2020 provides for universal Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) coverage with no geographic restrictions, streamlined Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) procedures for quicker resolutions, and support for the construction sector through simplified cess payments. It also establishes a National Social Security Fund for various worker categories.

Another major reform under these codes is the simplification of compliance requirements. The shift to single registration, single licence and single return significantly reduces administrative burdens, particularly for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME). A uniform definition of wages introduces clarity across multiple laws, helping reduce disputes and improving predictability in wage-related calculations. Decriminalisation of minor offences and the introduction of digital processes such as algorithm-based inspections encourage transparency and trust-based compliance.

Preparing for the future of work

India's workforce is diversifying, with the rapid growth of gig and platform-based employment, flexible working models and digital-enabled livelihoods. In this context, the Social Security Code's inclusion of gig and platform workers is timely. With the size of this workforce expected to grow from one crore in 2024-25 to 2.35 crore by 2029-30, establishing a framework for social protection is a forward-looking measure that aligns with the changing nature of work.

The Codes also emphasise formalisation, which remains vital for long-term economic progress. Clearer rules, standardised definitions and transparent processes encourage more enterprises to enter the formal economy and help extend protections to a larger share of the workforce.

A boost for women in the workforce

Women's participation in the workforce has improved yet remains below its potential. According to the International Labour Organization's India Employment Report 2024, India's female labour force participation rate stands at 32.8%. The Labour Codes help strengthen the enabling environment by reinforcing equal remuneration, enhancing maternity benefits and expanding social protection to unorganised, gig and platform workers. The OSH Code also allows women to work at night with their consent and has adequate safety arrangements, thereby widening opportunities across several sectors. Together, these provisions support greater access and continuity of employment for women as the economy evolves. A modern labour framework must balance the need for worker protection with the requirements of a competitive business environment. The Labour Codes aim to provide this balance by offering clearer industrial relations norms and faster dispute resolution, while ensuring that workers have access to essential rights, safety and social security. This balanced approach supports investment, promotes stability and helps strengthen India's position in global value chains.

The next few days will be crucial as the implementation process for these Codes moves forward. It will be important for States to align with the minimum thresholds and guiding principles laid out in the Codes to ensure uniformity and clarity across the country. After the Goods and Services Tax (GST) reforms, this represents one of the most significant structural reforms. This reform momentum should continue, supporting greater investments, and thereby contributing to higher employment generation in the country.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Assam Bill

At a time when Assam is burdened by high unemployment, chronic underinvestment and an administrative culture still hobbled by corruption, the government's decision to prioritise a harsh anti-polygamy law sits oddly with the State's real needs (Front page, November 26). Polygamy, by all credible accounts, is a statistically marginal practice. To elevate it into a legislative centrepiece is to mistake symbolic combat for governance.

Its significance lies instead in its political grammar. The move extends a familiar pattern of gestures calibrated to reassure the State's most vocal right-wing constituencies: from aggressive eviction drives to the closure of madrasas and recurring alarms about demographic 'imbalance'. These interventions share a common logic — they foreground cultural vigilance over developmental ambition and recast governance as a form of ideological custodianship. The deeper loss is one of administrative focus. By devoting scarce policy attention to identity-laden legislation, the government risks entrenching the very development stagnation it claims to remedy. Assam needs transparent institutions, job-creating investment and sustained planning far more urgently than another round of symbolic interventions dressed up as reform.

M. Jameel Ahmed,
Mysuru

Dismissal of officer

The very system of religious activity/practice in the armed forces needs a relook. The military establishment cannot take cover by stating that all personnel are to follow all religions/practices. Religion/spirituality should be one's personal choice/right and no one can compel any one on this in our country. The Ministry of Defence needs to initiate a rehaul of this practice.

Prince Gnanathilagam,
Coimbatore

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address.

Are the labour codes labour-friendly?

Amarjeet Kaur

General Secretary, All India Trade Union Congress

R. Mukundan

President designate, Confederation of Indian Industries

PARLEY

On November 21, the Union Labour Ministry announced the implementation of the four labour codes: The Code on Wages, 2019; The Industrial Relations Code, 2020; The Code on Social Security, 2020; and The Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020. Several trade unions have expressed concern over the notification of the four labour codes, with many of them demanding that they be revoked. Are the labour codes labour-friendly? Amarjeet Kaur and R. Mukundan discuss the topic in a conversation moderated by **A.M. Jigeesh**. Edited excerpts:

What necessitated these codes? Trade unions have been maintaining that they never demanded such a codification. But industries were keen for reforms.

R. Mukundan: The labour codes are an integral part of India's economic growth. Many labour laws were framed way back in the 1940s and 1950s and needed a revamp in the current context. Fundamentally, the labour codes will benefit both workers in the traditional industry as well as new-age workers. It is important that workers are protected, empowered, and the workplace becomes conducive to productivity. The labour market has become diverse due to rapid industrial growth, informalisation of work, more contract workers, platform workers or gig workers, e-commerce, logistics... Labour laws, which were fragmented, with overlapping definitions, multiple compliances, inspections and different interpretation across States, have been simplified, harmonised, and modernised to make it easy to create jobs. They will ensure social protection and maintain industrial harmony in a fast-advancing economy.

Amarjeet Kaur: Workers in India fought for labour laws from the 19th century. The struggle was about working hours, wages, workplace safety, social security... In the 20th century, we got laws such as the Trade Unions Act, 1926; the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, and more, after workers' struggles. Now, the government says that it wants to liberate workers from a colonial mindset and that is why it has brought in labour codes. Labour unions in India fought against British rule and got their legal right of organising. The labour codes snatch these rights from workers and will actually take us back to the colonial era. For instance, codes nullify the powers of State governments by centralising powers on issues such as regular employment. The codes legalise fixed-term employment and promote hire and fire. We have been demanding regular employment. The government has failed to handle the economy well and to create jobs. It has not been able to create decent working conditions. Employers were repeatedly saying there is difficulty in complying with the laws, while trade unions demanded the formation of a labour commission. During the neoliberal economic era, the Second Labour Commission submitted its report to the A.B. Vajpayee government. But the positive suggestions of this report were ignored and all the employer-friendly suggestions have been accommodated in the codes, such as fixed term employment. In the last Indian Labour Conference (2015), the Prime Minister promised that no law will be amended without consulting trade unions. But this did not happen at the all-India level. No trade union was involved in the drafting stage. The government pushed these codes in a total undemocratic manner.

A file photo of delivery men of food aggregators in India. PTI

The government's argument is that the labour codes will attract investment. Will making changes in industrial and labour laws attract investments?

RM: This is a signal of policy stability and predictability. Today, we are not just competing within India. We are also competing with other countries and these laws make it much more competitive for global investors who compare the regulatory environment in countries such as Vietnam and South Korea with ours. When companies know what rules to follow, how to comply, what costs to expect, they can make long-term decisions. The uniformity across States, digital filings, reduced disputes, and emphasis on flexibility will make India a more attractive destination for the manufacturing and for supply chain. Investment depends on many other elements such as infrastructure, skills, taxation. But labour is an important part of that.

> How many people are covered by social security today in India? Only up to 7%. These new laws are not going to cover 93% of the other workers. Gig workers are only a small share of informal economy workers. All informal economy workers need protection
> AMARJEET KAUR

AK: I don't think it will attract investors when in our own country, the situation is volatile and workers are unsatisfied. How much FDI has come in since the government allowed 100% FDI in insurance and other sectors? We have already begun to lose out since the start of the tariff war. If India signs a bilateral treaty with the U.S., it will be opening a path for neo colonisation.

Will the codes enhance or expand social security? How prepared are our industries to share more for workers or towards a corpus that would help workers?

RM: The social security net is currently being widened to include platform and gig workers and informal workers in small establishments and fixed-term employees. About 40 crore workers who will have access to minimum wages and social security under the new codes. The preparedness would vary from sector to sector as well as the size of the companies. Organised sector companies are very well prepared. We are working very closely with MSMEs in terms of the implementation process.

AK: Our existing social security schemes have a mechanism of dispersal, have their own administrative setup, and there is no government funding involved. It is the employers and employees who contribute to these schemes, and the government should discuss this issue with us and seek our consultation. The existing schemes are being dumped into the Code on Social Security.

How many people are covered by social security today in India? Only up to 7%. These new laws are not going to cover 93% of the other workers. Gig workers are only a small share of informal economy workers. All informal economy workers need protection. Social security to all is a mirage. Fixed term employment will undermine the concept of job security and weaken trade unions.

Will the codes negatively impact worker-employer relations?

RM: Any reform will bring about certain shifts in the work relationship. And there will be certain sections which will view it with a bit of a trepidation. I think it's important to hear their voices. Fundamentally, we have to progress and embrace the changes. These include deployment of women across all shifts and fixed-term employment and certain hiring and layoff thresholds. The codes strengthen notice period. They improve retrenchment compensation. They create reskilling funds because many of the industries are going through a massive shift today with AI.

AK: The codes are not going to create a conducive environment. Instead of bringing industrial peace, they are likely to create industrial unrest. Rights such as collective bargaining are not protected under the codes. Employers and employees need to sit together, which is why the Indian Labour Conference is essential. This is the right moment for employers' organisations to urge the government to call for it.

Minimum wages have been a long-pending demand. The S.P. Mukherjee Committee is yet to submit its report on this. So, will the codes help with basic minimum wages?

RM: There are nuances which cut across various regions and various industries. And the concern is around implementation, not principle, especially on what we call as living wages. In my view, it should reflect variations in the cost of living across regions, as well as sectoral differences where relevant. These are important nuances, and there should also be some link to productivity. Adjusting wages for inflation is important. We must ensure that the methodology used for this is clear and transparent so that it does not lead to disputes.

AK: The code on wages has diluted the minimum wage guarantees. Instead of ensuring a minimum living wage, the codes empower the Centre to fix a floor level wage. And how much of our workforce is being covered? Almost 90% of the workforce is not getting minimum wages and now more and more people will be out of minimum wage cover because under the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, the threshold to obtain license for factory has been increased from 10 workers to 20 workers with power and 20 workers to 40 workers without power. This will exclude a number of workers from the purview of minimum wages law.

To listen to the full interview
Scan the QR code or go to the link
www.thehindu.com

NOTEBOOK

A former Minister and his "vada case"

Reporting from court is always exciting, especially during criminal cases, as K.A. Sengottaiyan's trials from the late 1990s showed

D. Suresh Kumar

Covering court proceedings is exciting for reporters for the sheer variety it offers. Unlike other specialised beats, it gives us the opportunity to follow developments on everything under the sun. A legal correspondent is privy to fine arguments by the best legal minds on constitutional provisions, issues of governance, interpretations of law in criminal cases, spirited public interest litigation, and, of course, judicial sermons. What is truly thrilling, though, is covering criminal trial proceedings. This is where a reporter encounters the ingenuity of criminal lawyers, the desperation of the accused, the smartness or sometimes even collusion of state prosecutors, the innocence of witnesses, and the straight-faced court staff.

Interesting courtroom encounters became staple fare when the M. Karunanidhi regime in Tamil Nadu (1996-2001) set up three special courts in Chennai to try 46 corruption cases against former Chief Minister Jayalalithaa, some of her erstwhile cabinet colleagues, and IAS and IPS officers. The trials were conducted daily. The accused and their lawyers tried every trick to prolong the proceedings. Many of us would see accused politicians suddenly fall sick on crucial hearing dates. Fed up with such tactics, a special judge once went to a hospital, with lawyers, court staff, and journalists in tow, to frame charges against a former Minister, who was lying in bed.

In another case, just as the judge began to read out the charges, Jayalalithaa sneezed loudly. For a moment, everyone in the courtroom believed she was in real distress. She kept sneezing until the judge finished his part.

K.A. Sengottaiyan, one of Jayalalithaa's fiercest loyalists and a former Transport Minister, was facing three cases then. An uncrowned king in the Gobichettipalayam constituency, he had joined the AIADMK as a fan of its founder and actor-turned-politician M G. Ramachandran (MGR). He imbibed MGR's habit of loosening his purse strings. He enjoyed significant goodwill in his hometown, Erode district, for liberally tipping government employees. Journalists there would narrate tales of how the Telephone Department lineman would occasionally "discover" a faulty connection at his home to earn a princely tip.

Each time he appeared in court, dozens of supporters would accompany him, standing behind him and the other accused. Quite coincidentally, many prosecution witnesses would turn hostile. Rattled by the continuing volte-face of witnesses, the prosecution at one point decided to file a perjury case against a hostile witness to deter others.

During court hearings, Mr. Sengottaiyan's personal assistant would arrange lunch for his supporters from a popular vegetarian restaurant chain. Some journalists were also shown patronage. On one occasion, hot vada with sambar and chutney was distributed not just to his supporters, but also to a section of the special court staff. A now-defunct Tamil newspaper published a report with the headline: "Sengottaiyan buys vada for court staff." The story created quite a sensation. Special Judge-I Sambandham was furious. He issued a memo to all the staff, irrespective of whether or not they had eaten the vada. From that day, whenever journalists asked the court officer which case was listed for hearing the next day, if it was one of Mr. Sengottaiyan's, the reply would be: "*Naalaikku* vada case, sir (Tomorrow is the vada case, sir)."

Eventually, Mr. Sengottaiyan was convicted in one of the "vada cases" and could not contest the 2001 Assembly elections. Later, he was acquitted by the Madras High Court, giving his political career a fresh lease of life. On Thursday, the leader, who was recently expelled from the AIADMK, which he served for over 50 years, joined actor-politician Vijay's fledgling Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam.

sureshkumar.d@thehindu.co.in

PICTURE OF THE WEEK

A dark chapter

The Mumbai Police pay homage to the those killed in the 26/11 terror attack, at the Mumbai police headquarters on Wednesday. EMMANUAL YOGINI

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO NOVEMBER 28, 1975

Complete take-over of Burmah-Shell by Dec. 31

New Delhi, Nov. 27: The ownership of the Burmah-Shell refinery in Bombay and all its marketing undertakings in the country will be completely transferred to the Government of India by December 31, 1975, under a memorandum of understanding signed between them. Mr. P.K. Dave, Secretary, Union Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals, and Messrs. R.H. Kilbey and M.A. Cooke., Directors of Burmah-Shell, have signed the memorandum.

The question of the price payable to Burmah-Shell will be settled during the next five weeks. The Government has given an assurance that the officers and staff working in Burmah-Shell in India and on temporary overseas assignments will continue in the service of the new Government-owned company. The existing terms and conditions of their service will continue, unless duly altered by the Government or the new company. The provident fund, super annuation benefits, welfare benefits, etc. will similarly be maintained. The new company will take over Burmah-Shell's obligations to its employees including retrenchment compensation benefits relating to termination of services and pensions including supplementary retirement benefits.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO NOVEMBER 28, 1925

Wireless operators

London, Nov. 27: Telegraphists' Associations have issued strike notices in the case of all wireless operators on board British ships and instructed men not to sign for further voyages pending the settlement of the dispute regarding conditions of service, including the proposed reduction of wages by 22sh 6d per month.

London, Nov. 27: The strike of wireless operators does not involve lend stations, but the Association of Wireless and Cable Telegraphists, which has called the strike, claims as its members 98 per cent of the wireless operators on British merchantmen.

From Page One

SC asks govt. to regulate user content on Internet

Advocate Prashant Bhushan said any guidelines restraining free speech mandated prior and extensive public consultations, to be initiated by the Centre. He cautioned that the term 'anti-national' was both over-broad and ambiguous.

The Chief Justice said there were enough laws to turn to after the damage was done. But there was nothing to protect them before the post went online.

"A takedown takes at least 24 hours. By the time it is effectuated, the harm is already done... This preventive exercise is not to throttle anyone but to have a certain degree of stick. Technology with AI makes you (social media intermediaries) enormously powerful, to curate your material, assess its impact. Platforms are monetising content," Justice Bagchi observed. The judge termed prosecution of the creator of the offending social media post a "post-occurrence penalty", saying "we must have preventive mechanisms to ensure there is no spread of misinformation, loss of property as well as sometimes lives".

Senior advocate Amit Sibal, for Indian Broadcast and Digital Foundation, expressed reservations about the court using the term 'preventive' to describe the proposed guidelines. 'Preventive' could be read as 'pre-censorship', he said. He suggested changing the prefix to 'effective'.

"The difficulty we are facing is the response time. By the time intermediaries respond to such content, it has already gone viral... How do you plug that gap? That is the question," Justice Bagchi emphasised.

IMF gives India a 'C' for national accounts data

For example, it highlighted an outdated base year of 2011-12 on which the data is based, and the use of wholesale price indices as data sources for deflators due to the lack of producer prices indices. It further pointed out periodic "sizeable discrepancies" between the production and expenditure approaches of measuring GDP, "that may indicate the need to enhance the coverage of the expenditure approach data and the informal sector".

The Indian government has, from the beginning, used the income approach to measure GDP by measuring the incomes of the government, people, and companies. However, it also provides an estimate based on the expenditure approach, which attempts to quantify GDP through the spending done by these entities.

Often, due to the differing data sources and their coverage, the two estimates of GDP differ, which has attracted criticism from some economists. Finally, the IMF also highlighted the lack of seasonally adjusted data and "room for improvement of other statistical techniques" used in the quarterly national accounts data.

Regarding India's main inflation measure, the Consumer Price Index, the IMF graded India a 'B', which means the data provided "have some shortcomings but are broadly adequate for surveillance".

It said that while the CPI data scores well on its frequency and timeliness, coming as it does once a month and with only a month's lag, the rating of 'B' reflects the outdated CPI base year, items basket, and weights (set in 2011-12), "implying that the CPI basket likely fails to accurately represent current spending habits".

Union Law Ministry defends simultaneous polls proposal

Curtailing tenure not against basic structure of Constitution and synchronisation of elections through amendment is permissible, Ministry tells the Parliamentary panel that is examining Bills

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

The Ministry underscored that simultaneous elections aim at reducing the frequency of polls and associated expenditure. ANI

The Union Law Ministry, in a written submission to the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) examining the Bills on simultaneous elections, said that the proposed framework does not violate the Constitution's basic structure, nor does it infringe upon the federal structure of the Constitution.

The JPC, headed by senior BJP leader P.P. Chaudhary will be meeting representatives from the 23rd Law Commission and the Election Commission on December 4. The Law Ministry, which has already submitted replies to the questions posed by the panel, will be appearing at a later meeting. The Law Commission has already submitted its report.

Responding to queries on whether curtailing the tenure of a government undermines the voter's right to elect a government for five years, the Ministry said Articles 83(2) and 172(1) of the Constitution explicitly provide that the term of the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies shall be five years "unless sooner dissolved." This phrase, the Ministry argued, was deliberately incorporated by the framers to allow for premature dissolution under certain circumstances.

"The five-year tenure is neither sacrosanct nor part of the basic structure," the Ministry noted, citing historical precedent. It pointed out that the 42nd Constitutional Amendment (1976) made during the 19-month Emergency imposed by the Indira Gandhi government extended the tenure of legislatures to six years, which was later restored to five years through the 44th Amendment.

"If the tenure could be extended by Constitutional Amendment, a one-time curtailment to synchronise elections cannot be said to violate the basic structure," the Ministry said.

On concerns that the proposed legislation may run afoul of the Supreme Court's landmark *Kesavananda Bharati* judgment which spoke of the basic structure doctrine, the Ministry maintained that the Bills do not erode the principle of separation of powers or federalism. The basic structure doctrine demands that certain fundamental features of the Constitution – such as separation of powers between the organs of the State, namely, legislature, the executive and the judiciary – are a part of the basic structure of the constitution and cannot be amended.

"Mid-term elections do not limit the plenary power of the electorate to elect representatives. The right to vote and contest elections, while secured under Article 326, are not fundamental rights," it clarified.

On the question of whether the Election Commission would wield excessive powers under the new framework, the Ministry said the Commission already enjoys autonomy under Article 324 and has the authority to schedule elections under Sections 14 and 15 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

The Ministry underscored that simultaneous elections aim at reducing the frequency of polls and associated expenditure without compromising constitutional principles.

Congress demands withdrawal of the new labour codes

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Udit Raj

Opposing the new labour codes brought by the Narendra Modi government, the Congress on Thursday called them anti-labour and demanded their immediate withdrawal.

Addressing a press conference, chairman of the Unorganised Workers and Employees Congress, Udit Raj, said a movement against the labour codes would be launched across the country.

"These four labour codes – Industrial Relations Code-2020, Occupational Safety, Health Code-2020, Social Security Code-2020, Code on Wages, 2019 – are extremely harmful to workers. These codes strip workers of their rights, eliminate job security, and only serve the interests of corporations," he said.

He claimed that the Industrial Relations Code drastically expanded the scope of the "hire-and-fire" policy. "Earlier, an employer needed approval to dismiss more than 100 workers. Now they can terminate up to 300 without permission," he said.

Mr. Raj said 44 crore unorganised workers had been left at the mercy of big corporates, even as their rights had been curtailed and they could not go on a strike anymore.

He alleged that the revamped definition of wages would sharply reduce take-home pay. By clubbing basic wages with components used to calculate social security, he said, workers' salaries could drop "by nearly 50%". "We demand that the government immediately withdraw these anti-worker new codes," he said.

Due to the weakening of the inspection system in the new labour codes, the exploitation of workers would increase, and employers would get exemptions from many legal restrictions, he alleged.

BJP flags foreign-run X handles; diversionary tactic, says Cong.

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Thursday flagged several X accounts allegedly being operated from outside India, claiming that they are linked to leaders and supporters of the Congress and a "Left-leaning ecosystem", and are being used to run campaigns to malign Prime Minister Narendra Modi and tarnish India's image.

The Congress hit back, saying that the ruling party was raising the matter to divert attention from the hard questions facing the Narendra Modi government. The Opposition party added that X had acknowledged a technical glitch with regard to the location of users.

BJP MP and spokesperson Sambit Patra alleged that the X handles were part of a campaign to "set a narrative", being run since 2014, and also received support from "foreign powers". He targeted the Congress, particularly Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi and his social media team, and "well-known faces of the Left ecosystem".

After X recently introduced a new transparency feature, the original location of the handles in question were revealed, Mr. Patra said. Several overseas-operated or anonymous accounts, apparently located in countries like the United States, Ireland, Malaysia, Thailand, Europe, Singapore, West Asia, Southeast Asia, Pakistan, and Bangladesh, were pushing baseless narratives about "vote theft" and Operation Sindoor. The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) was also targeted, he added.

The BJP leader alleged that, after the feature was enabled, the X account of senior Congress leader Pawan Khera had shown its location as the U.S. The handle of the Congress party's Maharashtra unit initially showed its location as Ireland (now India), while the Himachal unit's handle was "connected via Thailand android app".

The Election Commission was being attacked on various issues, including the ongoing special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, as part of the conspiracy, Mr. Patra said, adding that misinformation was also being spread to portray Mr. Modi and the Indian Army as weak.

'Anti-India rhetoric'

Accusing Mr. Gandhi of engaging in "anti-India rhetoric" abroad, Mr. Patra said: "He is unfit to be a politician in India, he is fit to conspire against India from foreign soil. There is a need to be wary of him and the Congress."

Responding to the allegations, Congress social media head Supriya Shrinate said: "The BJP wouldn't have exposed themselves if only they had read the statement and clarification issued by X."

The Congress leader also pointed to several other X accounts, including that of the BJP's Gujarat unit, whose location was shown as outside India.

"I would like to ask why is BJP Gujarat handle run from Ireland? Why is the StartUp India handle run from Ireland? Why is the DD News handle run from America? And most importantly, why is the Adani Group's handle located in Germany? Are these people also involved in anti-India activity?" Ms. Shrinate asked. She said the government wants to discredit anyone questioning the death of 26 booth-level officers because of pressure created by the ongoing SIR and vote *chori* allegations.

J&K Police hold searches in mosques, madrasas

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

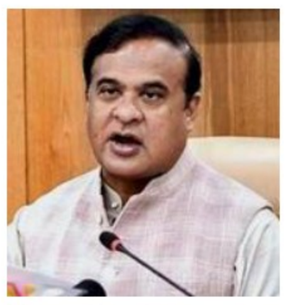
The J&K Police searched premises of members of the banned Jamaat-e-Islami in seven districts of the Kashmir Valley and the capital city Srinagar on Thursday. Police officials said searches were carried out in Anantnag, Awantipora, Shopian, Kulgam, Handwara, Budgam and Pulwama.

In Srinagar, police searched madrasas and masjids across all zones. Search teams were accompanied by executive magistrates and independent witnesses.

"These large-scale operations form part of continuing preventive measures aimed at identifying and neutralising networks attempting to covertly revive the activities of proscribed organisations. All individuals with any past or present affiliation to the banned group were brought under the ambit of the searches," the police said.

Assam Bill to ban polygamy cleared; CM promises to bring in UCC next

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI


Himanta Biswa Sarma

The Assam Assembly on Thursday passed the Assam Prohibition of Polygamy Bill, 2025, aimed at penalising those who enter into a second marriage without legally dissolving the first. The proposed legislation was tabled in the 126-member House on Tuesday.

"We will reserve the Bill for the assent of President Droupadi Murmu. I do not think the Bill will be denied approval, as the President is a woman," Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said, pointing out that the Bill intends to protect women and compensate victims of polygamy.

During the discussion, he said the widespread belief that Islam inherently promotes polygamy was factually incorrect. Citing religious accounts, he said that Prophet Muhammad regulated the practice of multiple marriages and limited it to a man keeping four wives under strict conditions. "His line of thinking was not to promote polygamy but to curb excesses," he said.

"Minus the consent, a second marriage is not legally valid in Islam," he told the House.

He added that the next step would be to introduce a Bill to implement the Uniform Civil Code in Assam. "If you cannot stop me from becoming the Chief Minister again, I will bring in the Uniform Civil Code," he said.

The Bill prescribes punishment of up to 10 years and heavy fines for individuals who conceal a previous marriage before marrying for the second time. Repeat offenders will face double the punishment.

It proposes up to two years in jail and a fine of up to ₹1 lakh for those who hide information about polygamous marriages from the police. Clerics or Qazis who solemnise such marriages may also face up to two years in prison and a fine of up to ₹1.5 lakh.

SC moots Central law to make ridiculing of PwDs a penal offence

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday suggested to the Centre to consider enacting a stringent law, on the lines of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, to penalise acts or remarks which demean or ridicule persons with disabilities or rare medical disorders.

"Why don't you bring some stringent legislation against insulting specially-abled persons, on the lines of the SC/ST Atrocities Act?" Chief Justice Surya Kant asked Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, who was appearing for the Centre.

The court's question was focused on the need to protect persons with disabilities from online abuse. The Bench was hearing a plea filed by SMA Cure Foundation that deprecated remarks made by *India's Got Latent* host Samay Raina and other social media influencers against PwDs. It spared the YouTube host and his associates from punishment, but reminded them of their societal responsibility.

PM to attend annual police conference in Raipur

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will attend the annual police conference, where key internal security issues will be discussed, at the Indian Institute of Management, Raipur from Friday.

The three-day conference organised by the Intelligence Bureau aims at reviewing the progress achieved in addressing key policing challenges so far.

The PM is expected to attend the conference on Saturday and Sunday.

Bengal re-releases details of 'tainted' teacher recruits

Moyurie Som
KOLKATA

The West Bengal School Service Commission (SSC) on Thursday re-released the list of 1,806 'tainted' teaching aspirants who were recruited after a State-level test in 2016, this time with additional details, following an order by the Calcutta High Court.

In April this year, nearly 26,000 teaching and non-teaching appointments made by the SSC in 2016 were annulled by the Supreme Court on grounds of a "vitiated and tainted" hiring process. The top court also directed the State government to conduct fresh teacher recruitments.

In August, the SSC had released a list of 1,804 tainted candidates with only their names and roll numbers. The list published on Thursday mentions the subjects they were selected to teach, their date of birth, and the names of their parents.

On Thursday, the Calcutta High Court directed the SSC to publish in the public domain the list of 'tainted' candidates appointed after the expiry of the 2016 selection list, as well the OMR sheets of the candidates who took the 2025 recruitment test, to "rule out any illegality".

APPEAL

Baby **Leanna Adhikari**, Manipal hospitals No.MH017582874, 6 months daughter of Mr. Sukanata Adhikari is suffering from Congenital Heart Diseases, Levocardia, common complete AV Septal defect, Inlet Vsd moderate sized, L-R, common Atrium, mild AVVR, severe PAH. She has to undergo AVSD surgical repair. Cost of surgery is Rs. 8,00,000/-

Please send donation however small by Cheque/ D.D/M.O Fav. **Save Poor Lives** A/c Leanna Adhikari, **Our A/c Details**: S/B A/c No. 20000913487. S.B.I. R.A.Puram, and IFSC CODE: SBIN0001855. Please donate by G-Pay No. 9884607377, UPI Id: savepoorlives@oksbi. Donations are exempted under 80G of I.T. ACT.

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68% SIR forms digitised; Goa leads, U.P. lags, says poll body

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A total of 34,86,60,338 enumeration forms, which is more than 68% of total existing electors, have been digitised till now in the second phase of the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls being carried out in nine States and three Union Territories, the Election Commission said on Thursday.

The EC said in a statement that 50,63,50,569, or 99.33%, enumeration forms have been distributed. The total number of electors being covered in this phase are 50,97,44,423.

The two States that have lagged behind in digitisation work are Uttar Pradesh, where 47.59% of forms have been digitised, and Kerala, which has achieved a target of 55% till now.

Lakshadweep (99.9%) and Goa (89.77%) are among the States that have digitised the largest number of forms. Other States that have raced ahead are Rajasthan (86.03%) and Madhya Pradesh (82.69%).

The enumeration phase began on November 4 and is scheduled to end on December 4.

How can teacher-BLOs decide citizenship, petitioners ask SC

Petitioners describe Election Commission's decision as 'dangerous and unreasonable'; counsel says EC devised SIR on the assumption that there's huge influx of illegal immigrants into India and adds Aadhaar is enough to prove voter eligibility

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Ongoing process: People receiving special intensive revision (SIR) forms and seeking clarification from a booth-level officer in Chennai. B. VELANKANNI RAJ

Petitioners in the Supreme Court on Thursday flagged the Election Commission (EC)'s "dangerous and unreasonable" move to have schoolteachers, deployed as booth-level officers (BLOs) in the special intensive revision (SIR) exercise, determine the citizenship of voters.

Appearing before a Bench of Chief Justice Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi, senior advocates Kapil Sibal and A.M. Singhvi said the court had spent the past months of SIR hearings giving the "healing touch", while in the process relegating to the background the law that intensive revisions ought to be limited to a constituency or a small group, and not done *en masse*, State after State, across the country.

Mr. Sibal submitted that the Representation of the People Act (RPA), 1950, required a person to be 18 years of age and be ordinarily resident in a constituency to be eligible for registration in the electoral roll. He said Aadhaar could very well be used to verify both these details.

The senior lawyer said a BLO had no authority to determine citizenship. "Whether a person is an Indian citizen or not is decided by the Ministry of Home Affairs. Whether a person is of unsound mind is decided by the competent court. Laws like Prevention of Corruption Act and the Representation of the People Act would form the statutory basis for disqualifying a person from the electoral roll. You cannot ask the BLO to ascertain all this," Mr. Sibal said.

He accused the Election Commission (EC) of supplanting the entire procedure for the revision of electoral rolls.

"Introduction of enumeration forms and shifting of burden of proof of citizenship... It is like the burden of proof placed on a foreigner. The conditions exclusionary which were existing before Independence is now existing after Independence," Mr. Sibal submitted.

'Beyond its domain'

Mr. Singhvi called the SIR an *en masse* exercise devised by the EC imagining there was a "huge, marauding influx" of illegal immigrants into India.

He said in the bargain, "crores and crores of people, State after State, are being asked to prove their citizenship. Where is the EC's jurisdiction to do this? Article 324 [power of the EC to conduct elections] cannot be used to plug holes in the EC's jurisdiction... Is the EC saying that an elector's presence in the 2024 and 2025 rolls is as a presumptive guest?" he asked.

The senior counsel pointed out that the power of EC under Section 21(3) of RPA to "direct a special revision of the electoral roll for any constituency or part of a constituency in such manner as it may think fit" cannot be interpreted as an *en masse* exercise.

He argued that, even if the poll commission had to assess citizenship for the purpose of voting, it could only be done if someone raised an objection. Otherwise, there were two laws, the Foreigners Act and the Citizenship Act, which governed illegal immigrants.

The Supreme Court adjourned the hearing to December 2.

INBRIEF

Uddhav Thackeray meets cousin Raj in Mumbai

Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray on Thursday met Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) president Raj Thackeray in Mumbai. The meeting comes amid speculation of an alliance between the cousins for the coming local body elections in Maharashtra. However, a top source denied the meeting was about seat-sharing. "Uddhav Thackeray had wanted to meet Raj Thackeray to discuss about Balasaheb Thackeray's memorial... Varun Sardesai was to accompany him. Ajit Bhure, Avinash Jadhav, Raju Patil were among those who were present during the informal discussion," the source said.

'Shiv Sena-NCP(SP) alliance in Kurduvadi harbinger of future'

The Shiv Sena-NCP(SP) alliance in Kurduvadi constituency in Solapur for the coming local body elections in Maharashtra could be a "harbinger of future", NCP(SP) State chief Shashikant Shinde said on Wednesday. While campaigning in Kurduvadi, Mr. Shashikant said, "Everyone has kept in mind to finish some people from politics. A few people in politics use others for the time being and leave. This alliance in Kurduvadi can be the beginning of Maharashtra's future." The NCP(SP)-Shiv Sena alliance will compete against Uddhav Thackeray's Shiv Sena (UBT), Ajit Pawar's NCP, and the BJP in the election.

RJD holds review meeting to discuss Bihar poll defeat

Amid the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) review meeting over the party's defeat in the Bihar Assembly election, party leader Tejashwi Yadav on Thursday left for Delhi without addressing presspersons. The party on Wednesday began its review meeting at the party headquarters in Patna under the chairmanship of State RJD president Mangani Lal Mandal, seeking feedback from party leaders, workers and local leaders over the reasons for defeat in the election. Party sources told *The Hindu* that "the details gathered during the meeting will be analysed pointwise and presented before the party's top leadership for further action".

Journalist's house demolished in Jammu; parties slam move

A team of Jammu Development Authority (JDA) and police on Thursday demolished the house of journalist Arfaz Daing in Narwal, Jammu, drawing severe criticism from political parties and lawyers who said that the action was selective. The journalist claimed he was not served any demolition notice beforehand. "Earlier, my house was demolished in Bathindi. I put up a brave face. I shifted to my parents' house. This house too was demolished. The house existed for more than 40 years. It's a selective drive. Only one house was demolished. Is my house the only illegal one in the entire Jammu city?" he said. Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and CPI(M) condemned the move.

Votes being sought on basis of funds, not work: Sharad Pawar

Vinaya Deshpande Pandit
MUMBAI

Nationalist Congress Party (SP) chief Sharad Pawar on Thursday raised concerns about recent reports alluding to distribution of funds by the ruling alliance leaders during the local body elections in Maharashtra.

Elections to various local bodies are set to be held on December 2.

Mr. Pawar said votes were being sought not on the basis of the work done in the constituencies, but on the basis of "funds".

"The competition among the three alliance partners (of *Mahayuti* consisting the BJP, the NCP, and the Shiv Sena) is about distributing money. 'I will give money. I will give funds.' This is not good. If the perspective is to bring in financial aspects to win elections, it is better to not comment," he told presspersons at Baramati.

Sharad Pawar

The comments came against the backdrop of statements made by the ruling alliance leaders about "funds". A few days ago, Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar had said, "If you elect all the 18 candidates, I will give you what I have committed. But if you cut on something, even I will put a cut. You have your vote in your hands, I have funds in my hands."

He later defended his comments, saying, "Where did I threaten? It is the voters who take a call on whom to vote for."

Congress holds meeting with Bihar unit leaders to review poll debacle

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

> ...Bihar poll was not a genuine mandate, but a grossly managed and fabricated outcome... What happened is nothing short of a direct assault on democracy
>
> **K. C. VENUGOPAL**
> Congress leader

The top leadership of the Congress met with leaders from Bihar on Thursday to review the party's debacle in the recent Assembly election.

All India Congress Committee president Mallikarjun Kharge, senior leader Rahul Gandhi, and general secretary (organisation) K. C. Venugopal met over 70 leaders from Bihar in separate batches of 10 at the party headquarters.

"Today's four-hour review meeting with our candidates & leaders from Bihar, under Hon'ble Congress President and Hon'ble LOP's leadership, made one thing absolutely clear: the Bihar election was not a genuine mandate, but a grossly managed and fabricated outcome," Mr. Venugopal said in a post on X.

"What happened in Bihar is nothing short of a direct assault on democracy," he added.

However, sources told *The Hindu* that a majority of the leaders pointed out problems with regard to ticket distribution, "outsiders" being given tickets at the cost of party loyalists, lack of coordination with the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD), ineffective leadership by AICC in-charge for Bihar Krishna Allavuru, among others.

Several leaders talked about the party having to carry the "baggage" of the RJD and wanted the Congress to chart out its own path in the State. They also attributed NDA's success to the cash transfer of ₹10,000 to women under the Mukhyamantri Mahila Rozgar Yojana.

Sources said the atmosphere before the formal meeting began was tense as Bihar leaders blamed each other for the poll drubbing, leading to heated arguments.

Mr. Allavaru, however, denied these reports as well as allegations of tickets being "sold".

"Yes, there were some controversial tickets (given) but when you speak, you should speak with data. The margin of loss in these controversial tickets was less than the non-controversial ones. It's easy to level allegations but as responsible people, you should be careful," he said.

"When I entered the room, there was no such thing as Bihar leaders hurling abuses at each other," he added.

Asked about taking accountability for the party's poor performance, Mr. Allavuru put up a strong counter about "engineered elections". "The results have gone beyond vote *chori* as this is an engineered mandate," he said, adding, "How is that the BJP and its allies have a two-third strike rate?"

Senior leaders including Lok Sabha member Tariq Anwar and his colleague from the Rajya Sabha Akhilesh Prasad Singh said the party's leadership has assured them of taking corrective steps.

CISF alters tenure, posting policy at Parliament

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

The tenure will make the CISF personnel more familiar with MPs and their movement patterns in Parliament. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) has revised the tenure of its personnel deployed at Parliament to a minimum of four years. At present, they are posted for three years. Personnel with a clean service record and only those who clear psychological assessment tests will be deployed, a CISF official said.

The revised policy comes in the wake of complaints by several MPs who were stopped or questioned by the CISF personnel while entering the premises.

The extended tenure will make the CISF personnel more familiar with the MPs and their movement patterns in Parliament, which is critical for ensuring accurate identification, secure access protocols, layered threat detection and response, the official said.

Post security breach

After a security breach in the new Parliament building on December 13, 2023, the Union Home Ministry approved the CISF deployment at the complex.

In June 2024, DMK MP M.M. Abdulla wrote a letter to then Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar, the former Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, and complained about the CISF personnel questioning him on the purpose of his visit to Parliament complex.

"Under the new framework, the tenure of personnel has been extended from the existing three years to four years, with a possible extension of one additional year based on suitability. To ensure operational continuity while ensuring optimum rotation for steady infusion of new blood, a fixed proportion of the sanctioned strength will be changed every year," the CISF official said.

Tighter norms

The new policy includes tighter eligibility norms and multi-stage screening.

"Personnel selected for Parliament duty must possess a clean service record, be in SHAPE-I medical category, have no disciplinary or vigilance concerns, should have completed at least two specialised courses and meet rank-specific age requirements," the official said.

The CISF has instituted a mandatory multi-stage screening process such as psychological assessment, battle physical efficiency test, Parliament-specific induction training and comprehensive security clearance.

"Only those qualifying all stages will be deployed. Personnel deployed are regularly undergoing training sessions," the official said.

The training includes National Security Guard-customised training and counter-terror training with the Army.

"To maintain high readiness levels, the CISF is conducting regular scenario-based mock drills simulating bio-terror incidents, terrorist attacks, drone threats, cyber-attacks, bomb threats, evacuation operations and air-contamination situations. Fire contingency elements are integrated into all exercises. Night-firing exercises are also conducted to sharpen accuracy and precision in low-light conditions," the official said.

7 RLM members resign, accuse Kushwaha of dynastic politics

The Hindu Bureau
PATNA

Seven members of the Upendra Kushwaha-led Rashtriya Lok Morcha (RLM), an NDA ally, resigned on Thursday, accusing the party chief of promoting dynastic politics.

Mr. Kushwaha is a Rajya Sabha member, while his wife Snehlata Kushwaha won the recently concluded Bihar Assembly election from the Sasaram seat.

However, he [Mr. Kushwaha] chose his son Deepak Prakash, 36, who is not a member of either House of the State Legislature, to be the Panchayati Raj Minister in Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's Cabinet.

Protesting against Mr. Kushwaha's decision to appoint his son as a Minister, as many as seven of his party leaders, including State party chief Mahendra Kushwaha, vice-president Jitendra Nath, resigned, accusing him of resorting to "*Pariwarwaad* (dynastic politics), instead of following socialist principles".

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU
COMMISSIONERATE FOR WELFARE OF THE DIFFERENTLY ABLED
No.05, LADY WILLINGDON COLLEGE CAMPUS, KAMARAJAR SALAI, CHENNAI-600 005.

Roc.No. 3731 /A&A/RIGHTS/2025 **TENDER NOTICE** Date : 26.11.2025

Bids are invited from potential bidders for supply of Computers & Printers for 37 sub divisional OSC's across the districts of Ariyalur, Dindigul, Kanchipuram, Kanniyakumari, Krishnagiri, Madurai, Mayiladuthurai, Nagapattinam, Namakkal, Pudukkottai, The Nilgiris, Tirunelveli, Tiruppur, Tiruvannamalai and Villupuram through the e-procurement portal. The complete details are available on the department website -**www.scd.tn.gov.in** as well as on the tender website-**tntenders.gov.in.**

Bids are to be uploaded through the e-procurement portal at **http://tntenders.gov.in**

Project Director – TN RIGHTS / Commissioner for Welfare of the Differently Abled, Chennai-600 005 reserves the right to accept or reject the tenders without assigning any reason.

DIPR/ 6366 /TENDER/2025

Project Director – RIGHTS /
Commissioner for Welfare of the Differently Abled

INBRIEF

Red Fort blast: NIA gets 7-day custody of Jasir Bilal Wani

A Delhi court on Thursday sent Jasir Bilal Wani, a key accused in the Red Fort blast case, to the National Investigating Agency's (NIA) custody for seven days. A resident of Qazigund in Jammu and Kashmir's Anantnag, Wani was arrested in Srinagar by the NIA on November 17. Wani allegedly provided technical support to carry out terror attacks by modifying drones and attempting to make rockets ahead of the November 10 blast. He was produced before the Principal Sessions and District Judge, Anju Bajaj Chandna, at the Patiala House Court, following the expiry of the 10-day custody granted on November 18.

Agniveer's mother petitions HC for equal death benefits

The mother of an Agniveer who died in action has moved the Bombay High Court seeking parity in posthumous benefits for families of soldiers recruited under the Agnipath scheme. The petition, filed by Jyothibai Shriram Naik, challenges what she calls the "discriminatory denial" of long-term pensionary and welfare entitlements granted to families of regular soldiers. Her son, Agniveer M. Murali Naik, was killed on May 9 during intense cross-border shelling in Poonch, Jammu and Kashmir.

Operation Sindoor showed military resolve: President

Murmu says India seeks peace, but stands ready to defend its borders and citizens with strength and conviction; she lauds Indian armed forces for exemplifying professionalism and patriotism

Saurabh Trivedi
NEW DELHI

Operation Sindoor emerged as a defining moment in India's counter-terror and deterrence strategy, President Droupadi Murmu said, while inaugurating the third edition of the Indian Army's Chanakya Defence Dialogue-2025 on Thursday.

The world took cognisance not just of India's military capability but also of its moral clarity to act firmly, yet responsibly, in the pursuit of peace, she said.

Speaking at the inaugural session, the President lauded the Indian armed forces for exemplifying professionalism and patriotism while safeguarding India's sovereignty. She said that in every security challenge – conventional, counter-insurgency, or humanitarian – the forces had demonstrated remarkable adaptability and resolve. Beyond operational responsibilities, they continue to contribute significantly to national development through infrastructure, connectivity, tourism, and education in border areas.

President Droupadi Murmu being felicitated by Chief of the Army Staff General Upendra Dwivedi in New Delhi on Thursday. ANI

Blurred boundaries

Highlighting the rapidly changing global landscape, Ms. Murmu said the international system was being reshaped by competing power centres, technological disruptions, and shifting alliances. With cyber, space, information, and cognitive warfare emerging as new domains of competition, the boundaries between times of peace and conflict were becoming increasingly blurred.

India had shown that strategic autonomy can harmoniously coexist with global responsibility, she said, adding that India sought peace, but stood ready to defend its borders and citizens with strength and conviction.

Army transformation

The President commended the ongoing changes in the Indian Army during its "Decade of Transformation", which was yielding quantifiable deliverables across structures, doctrines, and capabilities. She expressed confidence that these reforms would bolster India's journey towards self-reliance in defence.

She also welcomed the Army's focus on youth and human capital through education, the expansion of the National Cadet Corps, and sports. Increased participation of young women officers and soldiers, she said, would enhance inclusivity and inspire more women to join the armed forces and other professions.

Expressing optimism about the deliberations at the Chanakya Defence Dialogue-2025, Ms. Murmu said the outcomes would offer valuable insights for policymakers in shaping India's future national security architecture. She affirmed her confidence that the armed forces would continue to move ahead with determination, and contribute to realising the goal of Viksit Bharat, a developed India, by 2047.

Army chief unveils road map to build future-ready force

Saurabh Trivedi
NEW DELHI

Army chief General Upendra Dwivedi on Thursday unveiled a comprehensive three-phase road map to transform the Army into an integrated, future-ready force by 2047.

Speaking at the Chanakya Defence Dialogue 2025, he said the plan aligned closely with the vision of Viksit Bharat and the government's broader push for reforms and technological advancement.

General Dwivedi said the first phase, stretching to 2032, formed the backbone of a "decade of transformation", driving accelerated transitions in capability development, force structure and operational readiness. The second phase, till 2037, focused on consolidating gains achieved during the transformational decade. The third and final phase envisioned a leap toward a fully integrated force design by 2047, equipped for next-generation warfare.

Highlighting the benefits of the ongoing reforms, the Army chief cited Operation Sindoor as a demonstration of how structural readiness and modernisation yield decisive battlefield outcomes. He added that the Defence Minister's decision to designate 2025 as the "Year of Reforms" had provided renewed momentum to the Army's modernisation pathway.

Four springboards

General Dwivedi listed four "springboards" for India's military evolution. Self-reliance (*Atmanirbharta*), or empowerment through indigenisation (*Swadeshikaran Se Sashaktikaran*), remains the foundational pillar, with visible gains in defence manufacturing and indigenous technology absorption. *Anusandhan,* or accelerated innovation through platforms like iDEX and ADITI, must now shift from experimentation to enterprise-level impact in artificial intelligence, cyber, quantum, and autonomous systems.

The third pillar, adaptation (*Anukulan*), focuses on reforming the larger ecosystem, while the fourth, integration (*Ekikaran*), stresses deeper military-civil fusion.

India and Indonesia make progress on BrahMos deal at Defence Ministers' Dialogue

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

India and Indonesia strengthened their defence partnership as Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Indonesian Defence Minister Sjafrie Sjamsoeddin co-chaired the third India-Indonesia Defence Ministers' Dialogue in New Delhi on Thursday. Both sides also made notable progress on the proposed BrahMos supersonic missile deal.

A senior defence official said the discussions reflected a "progressive approach" from both nations, adding that the agreement "might get locked at the earliest".

The Ministers recalled Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto's visit to India as the Chief Guest for Republic Day this year and noted that his talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi had bolstered the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. The participation of 352 personnel from the Indonesian Armed Forces in the parade was highlighted as a symbol of defence cooperation.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh in a meeting with Indonesia's Defence Minister Sjafrie Sjamsoeddin in New Delhi on Thursday. ANI

According to the Defence Ministry, while reiterating their commitment to a free, open, stable, and prosperous Indo-Pacific, the two sides emphasised adherence to international law and respect for sovereignty. They noted strong alignment between the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific and India's Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative, agreeing to intensify collaboration through multilateral platforms such as the Indian Ocean Rim Association, where India currently holds the chair.

Both countries were committed to enhancing cooperation in maritime domain awareness, cyber-resilience, and joint operational readiness. Indonesia welcomed India's proposal to form a Joint Defence Industry Cooperation Committee aimed at advancing technology transfer, and joint research and development.

Court has no magic wand; experts must find solution to air pollution: SC

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

Chief Justice of India Surya Kant on Thursday struck a cautious note, saying the Supreme Court does not have a "magic wand" to make the smog choking Delhi-NCR disappear.

But the Chief Justice assured the court would now go beyond the "ceremonial listing" of the air pollution case every year before Deepavali and proceed to hear the issue on a continuous basis.

The Bench headed by the Chief Justice, accompanied by Justice Joymalya Bagchi, listed the case on December 1 on an urgent basis.

The remarks from the Chief Justice were triggered by an oral mentioning made by *amicus curiae*, senior advocate Aparajita Singh, seeking an early hearing and urgent judicial orders as air pollution in Delhi-NCR had become a public health emergency.

Listing the case on December 1, the Chief Justice assured that the court would hear the issue on a continuous basis. ANI

Chief Justice Kant indicated his stance that pollution cannot be blamed on one source. The CJI said there would be multiple reasons for the health crisis. Previous hearings before a Bench headed by Chief Justice Kant's immediate predecessor, Justice B.R. Gavai, had largely focused on stubble-burning by farmers, particularly in Punjab.

"There is no such one reason for pollution. Be very clear about that. People are under a *bona fide* misconception that it is due to a particular reason. There are multiple sources. Neither us nor you are experts. We are also like any other resident facing hardship, but neither we nor you are experts in this issue. Domain experts and scientists have to bring up the solutions to this problem," Chief Justice Kant drew the boundaries for future hearings.

Ms. Singh pointed out that the court had been monitoring pollution cases for a quarter of a century, passing orders for a comprehensive action plan, the ongoing Graded Response Action Plan, an emergency air pollution control mechanism for the Delhi-NCR region, and so on.

"Yes, this is an issue which not only concerns the Delhi-NCR but also other parts of the country. The problem is what magic wand do we have. Can you suggest something that can be passed as an order and by that time there is clean air?" Chief Justice Kant emphasised the limitations of judicial review in the case.

Chief Justice Kant said the problem of air pollution required long-term plans crafted by domain experts. Ms. Singh said solutions were galore on paper, but their implementation had translated into zero. "We will take up this case on a continuous basis now. This case has a ceremonial listing. It will come up before Deepavali and disappear after winter," Chief Justice Kant said.

ED conducts searches in several States in PMLA case

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate conducted searches at 15 locations across Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, in and around Delhi, in connection with alleged bribes paid to government officials, including those of National Medical Commission.

According to the agency sources, the searches were part of a probe under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), based on a case registered by the CBI on June 30.

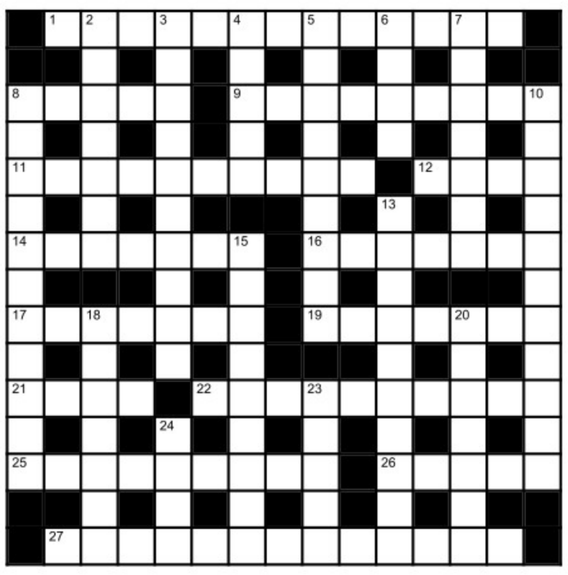
The bribes were allegedly paid in lieu of disclosing confidential information pertaining to medical college inspections, to managerial persons related to medical colleges, and middlemen, enabling them to obtain approval for running academic courses.

TH CROSSWORD + 14651

(set by Dr. X)

Solve this puzzle online and access more puzzles at *https://crossword.thehindu.com*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Leader of nation romanced gals? Preposterous gossip (13)
8 Male doctor saves British crime boss (2,3)
9 Offended about adultery primarily, getting separated (9)
11/20 What DJ manipulating vinyl record might do to deal superficially with a problem (7,3,7)
12 Master working, checking a little unstable sub-atomic particle (4)
14 Suffers after penning extremely indiscreet letters (7)
16 Attending show (7)
17 Retd, say - fantastic time of relaxation (4,3)
19 Agree to carry travel document to Serbian city (4,3)
21 Very much in love, captivated by a Latin model (1,3)
22 Charter, say, good catamaran at sea (5,5)
25 One manipulating old lag to keep quiet (9)
26 Quite a challenge to catch train (5)
27 Character taking lady out to races for ultimately thrilling ride (6,7)

Down

2 Entertainment in club by a nude model (7)
3 Poisonous plant near society involved in mysterious death (10)
4 Silly chap is hassling hosts (5)
5 Hot American writer chasing young woman is crooked (9)
6 A little nervous, no power in cricket shot - gets zero (4)
7 Praise the new dynamic exercise (7)
8 Partnership is about to break, resulting in failure (11)
10 Detonated explosive to have old husband murdered (4,2,5)
13 Medical problem is mismanaged, criticise head of venereology (10)
15 Yes, M's part perhaps (9)
18 Sign of crops failing on island close to Mexico (7)
20 See 11 Across
23 DEA agent tormented anchor scoring heroin (5)
24 Strong liniment giving relief (4)

SUDOKU

5	3		9			2	4	
	7	9			3		1	
	2							7
3			8		9			
			3		6			4
7							5	
	1		5			4	3	
	4	5			8		7	6

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★☆

No.SS6714 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

Solution to previous puzzle

		H	E	R	M	A	P	H	R	O	D	I	T	E
			Y		O		I		E		O		B	
S	H	E	E	R		Q	U	A	L	I	T	I	E	S
A		B		A		U		L		N		L		H
I	N	E	X	T	R	E	M	I	S		M	I	S	O
L		A		O				S		C		S		T
C	A	M	B	R	I	C		T	H	A	W	I	N	G
L				I		O		I		R				L
O	C	C	L	U	D	E		C	U	A	U	T	L	A
S		O		M		N				B		H		S
E	R	N	E		C	O	M	E	L	I	N	E	S	S
T		I		A		B		X		N		W		E
O	F	F	E	N	S	I	V	E		E	M	I	R	S
		E		U		T		C		R		N		
	C	R	O	S	S	E	S	S	W	O	R	D	S	

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

4	2	7	6	8	9	5	1	3
3	8	6	1	4	5	7	2	9
1	9	5	3	2	7	4	8	6
9	5	4	7	3	8	1	6	2
8	6	2	5	9	1	3	7	4
7	1	3	2	6	4	8	9	5
6	3	1	4	7	2	9	5	8
2	7	9	8	5	3	6	4	1
5	4	8	9	1	6	2	3	7

FAITH

Kabir and bhakti awakening

In one of his kritis, Tyagaraja says people ask for the reason for Rama's manifestation on earth eons ago. Was it for saving Ayodhya? Was it for Dasaratha's benefit that he was born as his son? Was it for saving Sugreeva? It was for all these and more so, to give darshan to his devotees on earth, says the saint. Verily, Rama appeared to Kabir Das around 600 years ago, said Krithika Bharadwaj in a nama sankirtan.

As the rule of Kali gained traction on earth, worried devas make a representation to Perumal who says propagating bhakti (margam) is the only way to contain Kali. He beckons Vyasa, Valmiki and Anjaneya who manifest on earth as Jayadeva, Tulsidas and Samrat Ramadasa to develop bhakti. Perumal also beckons Suka and Uddhava and while the latter comes down as Namdev (Pandharpur), Suka reminds Lord of his request that he should never again take form in a woman's body. Perumal gently pats Suka, who turns into a baby, is enclosed in an oyster and washes up, entangled in the nets of a weaver in Varanasi. Assuming the pearl in it would make him rich, he opens in, only to find the baby.

The child, named Kabir, was transfixed whenever he heard the name of Rama. While accompanying his father to work, if he came across a bhajan group, he would run off and join them, returning home late. Realising that he needed to be initiated formally, he sought out guru Ramananda Swamy. His assistants shooed him away, but in his yogic mind the guru saw two brothers (Rama and Lakshmana) who mention the transgression. The guru vowed to seek the boy and offer him diksha.

INBRIEF

FinMin, RBI working on portal to help with unclaimed assets

The Ministry of Finance is working with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to develop a unified portal to enable savers and retail investors to claim all unclaimed assets across asset classes such as bank deposits, pension fund, shares, and dividends, M. Nagaraju, Department of Financial Services Secretary said on Thursday. The portal is expected to be launched soon, he said, while speaking at a mega camp on *'Aapki Poonji Aapka Adhikar'* (Your Money Your Right) organised by the Punjab National Bank. PTI

Tata Realty, DBS Bank sign ₹1,280 cr. green loan facility

Tata Realty and Infrastructure Ltd., a real estate and infrastructure developer, and DBS Bank India Ltd., have announced the signing of a ₹1,280 crore green loan facility, which has been availed by a special purpose vehicle (SPV) that is behind the development of Intellion Park, Gurugram, an ultra-modern 2.1 million sq. ft campus comprising four towers under Tata Realty's flagship Intellion branded office spaces. DBS Bank India had acted as the sole advisor and green loan coordinator for the transaction.

South Africa's skin care brand FutureMe forays into India

FutureMe, an ultra-luxury skin-care brand, which was first launched in South Africa last year, has been introduced in the Indian market to cater to the needs of high networth individuals (HNIs), the company said. The company has set up an experience centre – 'The House of FutureMe' – at Breach Candy in Mumbai, where its products priced in the range of ₹20,000-65,000 are available for sale. The company, which also sells its products online, is planning to expand to other markets in the country and globally, its founder and chief executive officer (CEO) Supriya Mody said.

Centre rejects IMF's notion that 50% tariffs will be 'indefinite'

Union government says the international funding body's assessment of the U.S.'s tariff impact on India's GDP growth is 'on the high side'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Centre has objected to the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) baseline assumption that the U.S.'s 50% tariffs would continue, saying they would not remain in place "indefinitely".

The government added that the IMF's assessment of the growth impact of the tariffs was "on the high side". The IMF has estimated that the tariff hit would reduce India's GDP growth rate by 0.4% in 2025-26 and by 0.3% next year.

The IMF's comments and the government's response are encapsulated in the latest Article IV consultation report by the IMF, which comprises its staff's assessment of India's financial and economic system based on its calculations and consultations with officials in the Ministry of Finance and RBI. "The authorities [government and RBI officials] generally concurred with staff's assessment of the outlook and risks, though they did not agree with staff's tariff assumption," the report said.

The government agreed that the overall economic impact of the tariff shock should be "manageable" in the near term, although it did concede that a few industries would be "heavily affected".

"That said, the authorities disagreed with staff's baseline assumption that the 50% U.S. tariffs would remain in place indefinitely and considered staff's estimated growth impact to be on the high side given frontloading and the potential for developing other export markets," the report added.

According to the IMF report, the Indian government recognised the risks of elevated global uncertainty and potential further external shocks, but emphasised the positive potential from newly concluded and forthcoming free trade agreements.

Bone of contention

IMF estimated that the tariff hit will reduce India's GDP growth rate by 0.4% in 2025-26 and by 0.3% next year

- Indian authorities generally concurred with IMF staff's assessment of the outlook and risks
- The govt. and RBI officials, however, did not agree with staff's tariff assumption, IMF's report says

Negligible gain: Although this is a new all-time high, it is just 0.04% more than the previous close on Nifty. GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Nifty hits all-time high of 26,310, but closes 300 points lower

Ashokamithran T.
MUMBAI

Benchmark NSE Nifty 50 touched an all-time high of 26,310 points before paring gains and closing at 26,215.55 on Thursday.

The Sensex too hit an all time high of 86,055.86 points and settled at 85,720 points at the end of the session.

While this may be psychologically good news in a market with an otherwise tepid returns, both the benchmark indicators have dropped nearly 300 points from their all-time highs in the same session.

Although this is a new all-time high, it is just 0.04% and 0.13% more than the previous close on Nifty and Sensex respectively. To be sure, returns of 10 of the 19 sectoral indices were either negative or 0%, on NSE.

'Outlook positive'

"The short-term outlook of the market remains positive," said Shrikant Chouhan, Head Equity Research, Kotak Securities, adding that 26,350 on Nifty and 86,300 on Sensex would act as key resistance areas for the bulls.

Below 26,000 and 85,200, the sentiment could, however, change.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	THURSDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	85,720	0.13
US Dollar	89.36	-0.15
Gold	1,29,460	-0.49
Brent oil	63.30	1.58

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2255.00	-60.00
Adani Ports	1509.10	2.90
Apollo Hosp	7322.50	-70.50
Asian Paints	2879.10	5.10
Axis Bank	1287.30	-2.90
Bajaj Auto	9022.50	-141.50
Bajaj Finserv	2103.20	18.10
Bajaj Finance	1033.80	23.10
Bharat Elec	413.05	-2.25
Bharti Airtel	2115.60	-11.20
Cipla	1525.20	1.40
Coal India	378.05	0.70
Dr Reddys Lab	1249.30	1.30
Eicher Motors	6999.00	-199.50
Eternal Ltd.	302.75	-4.10
Grasim Ind	2740.00	-4.00
HCL Tech	1629.00	11.10
HDFC Bank	1009.50	5.60
HDFC Life	777.80	-9.75
Hindalco	807.55	6.75
Hind Unilever	2451.70	26.50
ICICI Bank	1392.20	17.20
IntGlobeAvi	5919.00	6.00
Infosys	1566.40	8.50
ITC	404.30	2.00
Jio Financial Services Ltd.	306.45	-1.55
JSW Steel	1160.60	6.20
Kotak Bank	2110.20	6.40
L&T	4081.30	19.30
M&M	3681.20	-5.20
Maruti Suzuki	15903.00	-253.00
Max Healthcare	1161.80	-0.80
NestleIndia	1266.40	-10.40
NTPC	327.35	1.25
ONGC	244.00	-3.70
PowerGrid Corp	273.70	-1.35
Reliance Ind	1563.40	-6.50
SBI Life	2004.50	-24.60
State Bank	972.85	-11.05
Shriram Finance Ltd.	867.65	11.05
Sun Pharma	1810.30	5.40
TataConsumerProduct	1177.70	-7.60
Tata Steel	168.13	-1.54
TCS	3136.60	-26.30
Tech Mahindra	1509.80	-10.60
Titan	3903.30	5.60
Tata Motors PV	357.80	-1.45
Trent Ltd.	4266.10	-26.30
UltraTech Cement	11617.00	-142.00
Wipro	249.56	-0.63

Govt. announces scheme to promote research in textiles

The Hindu Bureau
COIMBATORE

The Centre has approved a 'Textiles Focused Research, Assessment, Monitoring, Planning and Startup (Tex-RAMPS) Scheme' with an outlay of ₹305 crore to strengthen research, innovation, and competitiveness in the textiles sector.

According to a press release, the scheme will be effective from 2025-2026 to 2030-2031. Union Minister of Textiles Giriraj Singh said the scheme will bring together research, data, and innovation to empower India's textile sector and position the nation as a global leader in sustainability, technology, and competitiveness

Tex-RAMPS is designed to address critical gaps in research, data systems, innovation support and capacity development.

The scheme also aims to create robust data systems including employment assessments, supply chain mapping, and the India-size study to facilitate evidence-based policymaking. It will strengthen State-level planning, and aid in dissemination of best practices, capacity-building workshops, and organisation of sectoral events. Incubators, hackathons, and academia-industry collaborations will be supported to nurture high-value textile start-ups and entrepreneurship.

Confederation of Indian Textile Industry chairman Ashwin Chandran said that once operational, the TEX-RAMPS will contribute significantly to raising the global competitiveness of the Indian textile and apparel sector by strengthening the innovation ecosystem, promoting the rise of more promising startups, and making the quality culture take deeper roots in the sector.

Mahindra unveils eSUV at ₹19.95 lakh

Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd (M&M) on Thursday unveiled the XEV 9S, a seven-seater electric sport utility vehicle (SUV), at a starting price of ₹19.95 lakh ex-showroom. The vehicle offers a range of 500 km on a single charge, the company said.

CBDT 'nudges' taxpayers yet again to disclose foreign assets

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The identified taxpayers will be sent SMSs and emails November 28 onwards

The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) is launching the second edition of its 'Nudge' campaign where it sends emails and messages to taxpayers to revise their returns as it has found several cases where taxpayers have foreign assets that they have not declared.

The first edition of this Non-intrusive Usage of Data to Guide and Enable (NUDGE) campaign, launched in November 2024, resulted in taxpayers revising their returns and disclosing foreign assets amounting to ₹29,208 crore, along with foreign-source income of ₹1,089.88 crore, the CBDT said in a release.

The CBDT has signed agreements with various countries under which it receives information relating to foreign financial assets of residents of India from these partner jurisdictions.

"This information assists in identifying potential discrepancies and guiding taxpayers towards timely and accurate compliance," the CBDT said.

'High-risk cases'

It added that an analysis of data received through this Automatic Exchange of Information (AEOI) framework for 2024-25 has identified high-risk cases where foreign assets "appear to exist but have not been reported in the ITRs filed for AY 2025-26".

These identified taxpayers will be sent SMSs and emails November 28 onwards, advising them to review and revise their returns on or before December 31, 2025, so as to avoid penal consequences.

According to sources in the Income Tax Department, about 25,000 cases would initially be targeted, with the campaign being widened from mid-December.

Pharma exports going strong despite tariffs

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

India's pharmaceutical industry continues to strengthen globally despite the tariff, with the Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council of India (Pharmexcil) now featuring among the top five export promotion councils of the world with exports reaching $30.46 billion.

"Our move from fifth to fourth position reflects strong performance in generics, which contribute $16 billion, and continued trust from the U.S. and Europe accounting for 50-53% of exports.

Despite initial tariff concerns under Section 232, no duties have been imposed and exports remain in positive territory," Namit Joshi, Chairman, Pharmexcil, said at the CPHI & PMEC India event organised by Informa Markets in India.

Decathlon to invest €100 mn in India

Mini Tejaswi
BENGALURU

French sports gear and fitness equipment brand Decathlon said it would hire 2,500 new people, double revenues to ₹8,000 crore, and invest €100 million in India by 2030.

Decathlon India CEO Sankar Chatterjee said the French brand was capitalising on the growing sports market in India. The brand was not focussing much on premiumisation, but on affordability and economy of scale in India.

"India is a large sports market for us. We want to grow market share in sports in a growing economy. I think everybody looks towards India as big things are expected to happen here in the next 10 years," he said, adding that the number of Indians who practice some kind of sport had increased to 12% now from 5% in 2018.

OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER, PHED, REGION AJMER
PHONE NO. 0145-2624748 Email-aceregionajmer@gmail.com
No. F.( )/Ar.MP/2025-2026/14032-14081 Dated: 19.11.25
NOTICE INVITING TENDERS FOR WORKS
Bids for the Augmentation of Piped water supply scheme of 20 Villages in submergence Area of Bisalpur Dam under Division Tonk, District Tonk including 05 years O&M after 01 year Defect Liability Period under CM BUDGET ANNOUNCEMENT 2025-26 (NIT No. 18/2025-26; Estimated Cost Rs.1714.68 Lacs) are invited from interested bidders up to 15.12.2025 Other particulars of the Bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the state.
UBN NO. PHE2526WLOB08750,
NIB No. PHE2526A4250
(Ram Chandra Rar)
Addlitional Chief Engineer
PHED Region Ajmer
DIPR/C/17214/25

Invitation for Bids
Commission for Air Quality Management in National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas
17th Floor, Jawahar Vyapar Bhawan (STC Building), Tolstoy Marg, New Delhi – 110001
CAQM invites electronic bids on GeM Portal for:
Selection of System Integrator (SI) for the Design, Development and Operation & Maintenance (O&M) of Platform for Air Quality Vigilance & Analytics for NCR (PAVAN)
GEM no. ID: GEM/2025/B/6918773
Bid End Date: 12-12-2025 7:00 PM
Eligible Bidders may obtain further information on CAQM website: https://caqm.nic.in

कार्यालय अधीक्षण अभियंता सा.नि.वि. वृत, जैसलमेर
क्रमांक-अ.अ / जैसल/2025-26/2005 दिनांक : 19.11.2025
निविदा सूचना संख्या 09/2025-26 NIB No.PWD2526A4385
राजस्थान के राज्यपाल महोदय की ओर से सा.नि.वि. में बजट घोषणा 25-26 तथा मिसिंग लिंक सड़को के निर्माण कार्यो तथा भवन मरम्मत कार्य हेतु उपयुक्त श्रेणी में सार्वजनिक निर्माण विभाग राजस्थान में पंजीकृत संवेदकों एवं राज्य सरकार / केन्द्र सरकार के अधिकृत संगठनों / केन्द्रीय लोक निर्माण/ डाक एवम् दूर संचार विभाग / रेल्वे इत्यादि में पंजीकृत संवेदकों, जो कि राजस्थान सरकार के उपयुक्त श्रेणी के संवेदकों के समकक्ष हो, से निर्धारित प्रपत्र में कुल 03 कार्य जिनकी लागत राशि रू. 557.31 लाख है के लिए ईटेन्डरिंग प्रक्रिया हेतु ऑन लाईन निविदाये आमंत्रित की जाती है।

ऑनलाईन निविदा आवेदन डाउनलोड एवं अपलोड करने की तारीख	:	25 नवम्बर 2025 प्रातः 9:30 बजे से 15 दिसम्बर 2025, सायं 06:00 बजे तक

निविदा से संबंधित विवरण वेब साईट http://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in व http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in व http://eproc. rajasthan.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है। सम्पूर्ण निविदा प्रक्रिया http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर ऑनलाईन सम्पादित की जायेगी। इच्छुक संवेदको को अपने डिजिटल हस्ताक्षर के माध्यम से वेबसाईट पर http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in पर रजिस्टर्ड करवाना आवश्यक है कार्यवार यू.बी.एन. संख्या निम्नानुसार है।
1.PWD2526WSOB17238 2.PWD2526WSOB17240 3.PWD2526WSOB17241
(सुरेन्द्र मोहन वर्मा), अधीक्षण अभियंता,
सा.नि.वि. वृत जैसलमेर
DIPR/C/17258/2025

TNPL TAMIL NADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
Kagithapuram - 639 136. Karur Dist. Tamil Nadu.
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No.	Material Description	Due date
252613 005942	Procurement of Root Trainer for 50 CC 60 Cavities (Hiko Tray)	12.12.2025

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website only. Detailed Terms & Conditions are available in tender document at our website : www.tnpl.com
DIPR/6351/Tender/2025 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

SRI BHRAMARAMBA MALLIKARJUNA SWAMYVARLA DEVASTHANAM
SRISAILAM - 518101, NANDYAL DIST., A.P.
e-procurement (Online)tender- Cum-Public auction Notification - 2nd Call
Rc.No.C2/E-436386/2025 Dated.25.11.2025.
E-Tender/ Public Auction for collection of Human Hair right for **2 years** i.e for the period from **Dt: 27.12.2025 to 26.12.2026** anothe one year i.e. **27.12.2026 to 26.12.2027** to enhancement 10% of Bid amount with continued public action will be conducting on **11.12.2025, 10:00 A.M.** at Administration Building.
REQUIRED DOCUMENTS: 1. Aadhar Card, 2. Pan Card, 3. Last three years IT returns **(2022-23, 23-24 and 24-2025)**
THE TENDER DETAILS AS: 4. EMD **Rs.50,00,000/-** (Fifty lakhs) to be paid in the form of **D.D** in favour of the **Executive Officer, Sri Bhramaramba Mallikarjuna swamy varla Devasthanam, Srisailam.** 5. E-Procurement **www.apeprocurement.gov.in** login starts from **Dt: 28.11.2025**,
Note: for further information please contact leases section in office timings: Contact Numbers: **8801192939, 9441096182 & 6300057600.**
sd/- M.SREENIVASA RAO, Special Grade Deputy Collector & Executive Officer.

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NOTICE INVITING TENDERS

Tender No.	Description of work	Due date
252613 005900	Calcined Clay Bed Material - IS-8 (Iron Free)	11.12.2025
252613 005944	Procurement of Ortho Phosphoric Acid 85% Purity for Unit - I.	11.12.2025
252613 005945	Procurement of Liquid PAC (Poly Aluminium Chloride) for Unit - I.	11.12.2025
252613 005983	Procurement of Imported Furnace Oil for Unit - I & II.	09.12.2025
252613 005972	Bleached Softwood Kraft Pulp (BSKP) FSC MIX for Unit - I.	10.12.2025
252623 003417	Procurement of Descaling Agent for Continous Digester for Pulp Mill of TNPL Unit - II.	12.12.2025
252623 003422	Procurement of Inbed Evaporator Coil with Studs for TNPL Unit - II.	15.12.2025

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website and NIC Portal only. For further details, please visit websites : **www.tnpl.com / https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app**
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COLOMBO

Heavy rain triggers landslides and floods in Sri Lanka; over 40 killed

AP

Sri Lanka halted passenger trains and closed roads after landslides and floods triggered by heavy rain killed over 40 people, mainly in Badulla and Nuwara Eliya, officials said on Thursday. Twenty-one remain missing, while 10 people were injured and 5,000 families affected as the country battles severe weather since last week. AP

PARIS

Macron unveils voluntary military service amid 'accelerating threats'

AFP

President Emmanuel Macron on Thursday announced the creation of a new voluntary youth military service to begin by mid-2026, which would help France respond to "accelerating threats" on the global stage. The scheme will be open to 18 and 19-year-olds, who would be paid, and would last 10 months, he added. REUTERS

HONG KONG

At least 83 dead as Hong Kong firefighters battle burning towers

AFP

Firefighters battled a massive blaze at Hong Kong's Wang Fuk Court high-rise complex in Tai Po for a second day on Thursday, with the toll reaching 83. Over 70 were injured and 279 remain missing. Three men, the directors and an engineering consultant of a construction company, were held on charge of manslaughter. AP

DHAKA

Bangladesh former PM Hasina gets 21 years in prison for corruption

A court in Bangladesh sentenced ousted Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Thursday to 21 years in prison for corruption, a week after she was given the death penalty for crimes against humanity. Ms. Hasina, 78, is currently residing in India and has defied court orders that she return to Bangladesh. AFP

Japan will pay a 'painful price' if it steps out of line over Taiwan: China

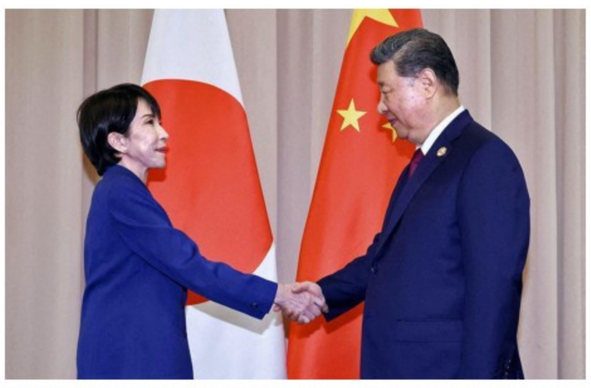
The warning follows Japan's plan to deploy a medium-range missile unit on Yonaguni Island; Chinese officials assert that Taiwan is a Chinese matter; Japan denies report claiming that Trump advised Takaichi not to provoke China over Taiwan

Reuters
BEIJING

China's Defence Ministry said on Thursday that Japan will have to pay a "painful price" if it steps out of line over Taiwan, responding to Japanese plans to deploy missiles on an island some 100 km from Taiwan's coast.

The remarks come amid the countries' worst diplomatic crisis in years, after Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi said this month a hypothetical Chinese attack on Taiwan could trigger a military response from Tokyo.

Japan's Defence Minister Shinjiro Koizumi said on Sunday that plans were "steadily moving forward" to deploy a medium-range surface-to-air missile unit at a military base on Yonaguni, an island about 110 km off Taiwan's east coast.



Brewing tensions: Sanae Takaichi shakes hands with Xi Jinping ahead of their talks in Gyeongju, South Korea, in October. REUTERS

Asked about the deployment, which China's Foreign Ministry has already criticised, the country's Defence Ministry said how to "resolve the Taiwan question" was a Chinese matter and nothing to do with Japan, which controlled Taiwan from 1895 until the end of the Second World War in 1945.

"Not only has Japan failed to deeply reflect on its grave crimes of aggression and colonial rule in Taiwan, it has instead, in defiance of world opinion, entertained the delusion of military intervention in the Taiwan Strait," spokesperson Jiang Bin told a regular news briefing.

"The People's Liberation Army has powerful capabilities and reliable means to defeat any invading enemy. If the Japanese side dares to cross the line even half a step and bring trouble upon itself, it will inevitably pay a painful price," he added.

Report denied

Separately, Japan denied that a *Wall Street Journal* report that said U.S. President Donald Trump had advised Ms. Takaichi not to provoke China over Taiwan's sovereignty.

The *WSJ* reported that, "Ms. Trump set up a call with Ms. Takaichi and advised her not to provoke Beijing on the question of the island's sovereignty". It cited unidentified Japanese officials and an American briefed on the call. However, Japan's top government spokesperson denied the *Journal's* account.

(With AFP inputs)

Myanmar's election will be a sham, says rebel leader

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

The coming election in Myanmar will be a "sham" and will not help in resolving the ongoing civil strife in the country that started with the coup by the military on February 1, 2021, said a leading member of a rebel outfit that has been fighting the junta for the past three years.

In an interview with *The Hindu* here, Yaw Mang, spokesperson of the Chin Brotherhood that is based in Mindat township of Chin State bordering Mizoram, urged the Indian government to assist the people of Chin State with supply of essential items like food and medicine, and provide telephone connectivity.

Yaw Mang

"The December 2025 election does not mean anything for us. It is like an event that is happening in another planet which will not matter to us. The junta's generals may dress up in military uniform or lungis depending on the occasion, but they will not stop the attacks," said Mr. Yaw Mang, claiming that the junta has been receiving support from China in its attacks against ethnic groups. "We are fighting the junta because it is denying administrative and economic rights of our people and trying to grab resources without sharing with us. We would stop fighting if we get half the rights that are enjoyed by the people in Mizoram, across the border," Mr. Yaw Mang said. "We are absolutely in favour of building friendly ties with India."

Visit to India

Mr. Yaw Mang, who was on a rare visit to New Delhi, said Chin Brotherhood was formed on December 30, 2023 in response to a crackdown by the junta.

"Initially, our people attacked the junta's soldiers without training which led to casualties on our side. But then we received support from the Arakan Army which has been fighting the junta in the Rakhine province and we learned from them," said Mr. Yaw Mang.

FBI to probe terror angle in shooting of U.S. National Guards

Associated Press
WASHINGTON

The FBI said on Thursday it had launched an international terrorism investigation after a gunman – identified as an Afghan national who served with U.S. troops in Afghanistan – shot and critically injured two National Guard soldiers near the White House in Washington.

The shooting, which officials described as an unprovoked, "ambush-style" attack, cast a grim shadow over the Thanksgiving holiday and triggered a hardline, anti-immigrant response from U.S. President Donald Trump and some of his top law enforcement officials.

In a brief video statement in which he called the shooting an "act of evil," Mr. Trump painted immigrants as an existential threat to national security and his administration ordered an immediate halt to the processing of immigration applications from Afghanistan.

Indian citizens top non-EU migration to and from the U.K., says Statistics Office

Sriram Lakshman
LONDON

Indian citizens represented the largest group of non-EU long-term migrants entering and exiting the U.K. in the year ending June 2025, as per official data released by the U.K. Office of National Statistics on Thursday.

Of the Indian citizens who arrived in the U.K. over the period, 90,000 arrived for study-related reasons, 46,000 came for work-related reasons, and 9,000 for other reasons. Indians were followed by Chinese, Pakistani, Nigerian and Nepalese citizens in terms of long-term migration from non-EU countries.

Of the Indians leaving the U.K. in the same year, 45,000 were on study-related, 22,000 on work-related visas, visas and 7,000 were in the U.K. for other reasons.

Across nationalities, net international migration (inflow less outflow) to the U.K. fell significantly, by more than two-thirds, to 204,000 in the year ending June 2025, down from 649,000 in the previous year. Emigration out of the U.K. also increased to a provisional 693,000 in the year ending June 2025, up from 650,000 the previous year.

While non-EU+ nationals contributed most to the provisional net migration figures, these numbers have been going down since 2022. The decline has coincided with a tightening of immigration rules under successive governments as per the latest data. Non-EU migrants mostly come to the U.K. for study and work as per the data.

Apart from student and worker numbers declining over the period, there were precipitous falls in the number of dependents who accompanied these workers (-65%) and students (-85%) to the U.K. compared to the previous year (year ending June 2024). A policy of former U.K. Prime Minister Rishi Sunak's Conservative government banning foreign care workers and students from bringing dependents with them took effect in early 2024. Mr. Sunak's government had also increased salary thresholds for skilled workers.

G. Bissau Opposition candidate accuses President of coup

Associated Press
BISSAU

The main Opposition candidate in Guinea-Bissau late Wednesday claimed victory in a closely contested presidential vote this week and accused the West African nation's leader of staging a coup to avoid defeat.

Wednesday's military takeover and the reported arrest of President Umaro Sissoco Embaló was "fabricated" to disrupt election results expected on Thursday, his rival Fernando Dias, a member of the Social Renewal Party, said in a video posted online, which echoed claims by civil society groups.

The Opposition African Party for the Independence of Guinea and Cape Verde was barred from the vote, prompting its leader, former Prime Minister Domingos Simões Pereira and runner-up in the 2019 election, to back Mr. Dias.

The party and Mr. Dias called on residents to stage protests against the coup.

Sport

Arsenal humbles Bayern, continues perfect run

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Reuters
LONDON

Arsenal beat Bayern Munich for the first time in a decade to maintain its 100% record in this season's Champions League with a 3-1 victory, sending it to the top of the group on Wednesday. Jurrien Timber headed Mikel Arteta's side in front from a corner after 22 minutes only for Bayern teenager Lennart Karl to equalise in style before half-time.

Arsenal dominated the second half though and showed its immense squad depth as substitutes Noni Madueke and Gabriel Martinelli scored the goals to make it five wins from five.

Arsenal is the only team in the competition with a maximum 15 points and look all but assured of a place in the last 16.

Making merry: Mbappe underlined his class by firing in Real's all four goals against Olympiacos. REUTERS

Liverpool's miserable season hit another low when it slumped to a 4-1 defeat to PSV Eindhoven.

Real Madrid striker Kylian Mbappe scored four goals, including the second fastest hat-trick in Champions League history in just eight minutes, to earn a 4-3 comeback victory over host Olympiacos.

The results: Pafos 2 (Luiz 18, Salisu 88-og) drew with Monaco 2 (Minamino 5, Balogun 26); FC Copenhagen 3 (Dadason 26, Larsson 59-pen, Robert 73) bt Kairat Almaty 2 (Satpayev 81, Baibek 90); Arsenal 3 (Timber 22, Madueke 69, Martinelli 77) bt Bayern Munich 1 (Karl 32); Atletico Madrid 2 (Alvarez 9, Gimenez 90+3) bt Inter Milan 1 (Zielinski 54); Eintracht Frankfurt 0 lost to Atalanta 3 (Lookman 60, Ederson 62, De Ketelaere 65); Liverpool 1 (Szoboszlai 16) lost to PSV Eindhoven 4 (Perisic 6-pen, Til 56, Driouech 73, 90+1); Olympiacos 3 (Chiquinho 8, Taremi 52, El Kaabi 81) lost to Real Madrid (ESP) 4 (Mbappe 22, 24, 29, 60); Paris Saint-Germain 5 (Vitinha 45, 53, 76-pen, Ruiz 59, Pacho 65) bt Tottenham 3 (Richarlison 35, Kolo Muani 50, 73); Sporting Lisbon 3 (Quenda 24, Suarez 31, Trincao 70) bt Club Brugge 0.

Chameera takes Lanka into the final

Associated Press
RAWALPINDI

Pacer Dushmantha Chameera grabbed four for 20 and stifled Pakistan in the final over as Sri Lanka entered the final of the T20 tri-series with a six-run victory on Thursday.

Pakistan, which had already qualified for Saturday's final, was held to 178 for seven with captain Salman Ali Agha's career-best unbeaten 63 going in vain.

Opener Kamil Mishra's 76 off 48 balls had earlier taken Lanka to 184 for five.

The scores: Sri Lanka 184/5 in 20 overs (Kamil Mishra 76, Kusal Mendis 40) bt Pakistan 178/7 in 20 overs (Salman Agha 63 n.o, Usman Khan 33, Dushmantha Chameera 4/20). **Toss:** Pakistan. **PoM:** Chameera.

Mountain Jewel for the Bangalore 1000 Guineas

RACING

BENGALURU: Mountain Jewel, who has been well prepared, is expected to score in the Zavaray S. Poonawalla Bangalore 1000 Guineas (1,600m), the first classic event of the season to be held here on Friday (Nov 28). There will be no false rails.

1 INFINITE PLATE (1,200m), maiden 2-y-o only, (Terms), 2-00 p.m.: 1. Atman (1) Antony 56, 2. Burevestnik (6) Sandesh 56, 3. Amber Storm (4) Ankit Pal 54.5, 4. Brave Heart (5) Vinod Shinde 54.5, 5. Moonveil (2) Trevor 54.5 and 6. Starzella (3) Mukesh K 54.5.
1. MOONVEIL,
2. STARZELLA

2 KUNCHIKAL FALLS PLATE (DIV. II), (1,100m), rated 20 to 45, 4-y-o & over, 2-30: 1. Chisox (1) Pavan 60, 2. Glorious Spectre (6) A. Hangal 59, 3. Roadrunner (2) Darshan 58, 4. Art Of Romance (4) Angad 55.5, 5. Pandurr (7) Jagadeesh 55.5, 6. Estefania (5) Aleemuddin 54.5, 7. Honest Desire (8) Antony 54 and 8. N R I Jetpower (3) Mukesh K 51.5.
1. HONEST DESIRE,
2. ESTEFANIA,
3. PANDURR

3 SNAP PLATE (1,400m), rated 40 to 65, 3-00: 1. Pole Star (2) Antony 60, 2. Fortis (5) Akshay K 58.5, 3. N R I Victory (7) Darshan 58.5, 4. Scarlette Lady (3) R. Girish 58.5, 5. Splendid Dream (6) Shreyas S 56.5, 6. Sapporo (10) Pavan 55.5, 7. Eagle Eye (8) Trevor 54.5, 8. Super Sapphire (9) Sai Kiran 54.5, 9. Star Of India (4) Neeraj 54 and 10. Mister Brown (1) Arvind K 52.
1. EAGLE EYE,
2. STAR OF INDIA,
3. POLE STAR

4 HYDERABAD SILVER VASE (1,600m), rated 80 & above, 3-30: 1. Global Influence (2) Suraj 61, 2. Kalamitsi (1) Trevor 58, 3. Never Give In (5) Antony 56.5, 4. Emphatic (4) Neeraj 51.5 and 5. Sekhmet (3) Rayan 50.
1. EMPHATIC,
2. KALAMITSI

5 ZAVARAY S. POONAWALLA BANGALORE 1000 GUINEAS (1,600m), 3-y-o fillies, (Terms), 4-00: 1. Bishop (7) Neeraj 57, 2. Elysium (5) Akshay K 57, 3. Flight Of Fancy (4) C. Umesh 57, 4. Hazel (8) Mukesh K 57, 5. Ice Of Fire (2) Trevor 57, 6. Mountain Jewel (3) Suraj 57, 7. Perfect Attitude (6) Antony 57 and 8. Sunshine (1) Sandesh 57.
1. MOUNTAIN JEWEL,
2. ICE OF FIRE,
3. SUNSHINE

6 KUNCHIKAL FALLS PLATE (DIV. I), (1,100m), rated 20 to 45, 4-y-o & over, 4-30: 1. Eastern Gold (7) Likith Appu 62.5, 2. Run For The Sun (8) Aleemuddin 62.5, 3. Shahenshaah (1) Sai Kiran 62, 4. Augusto (5) A. Hangal 61, 5. Noble Cause (4) Trevor 60.5, 6. Baltimore (6) Salman Khan 58, 7. LG's Star (3) Pavan 56.5 and 8. Days Date (2) Jagadeesh 54.5.
1. NOBLE CAUSE,
2. DAYS DATE,
3. LG'S STAR

7 GODAVARI PLATE (1,400m), rated 00 to 25, 4-y-o & over, 5-00: 1. Infinite Spirit (1) Pavan 62, 2. Flamingo Dream (8) Darshan 61.5, 3. Mystical Queen (6) Asirvatham 59.5, 4. Turkoman (9) Laxman S 59.5, 5. Lorven's Glory (7) Angad 58.5, 6. Striking Eyes (4) Jagadeeh 58.5, 7. Bezawada Blaze (2) S. Sachin 58, 8. Wakizashi (10) Mukesh K 58, 9. Channagide (–) (–) 57.5, 10. Emeraldo (3) A. Hangal 57.5, 11. N R I Gold (5) Antony 57 and 12. Southernaristocrat (11) Darshan 55.
1. N R I GOLD, 2. LORVEN'S GLORY, 3. SOUTHERNARISTOCRAT
Day's best: EMPHATIC
Double: EAGLE EYE – MOUNTAIN JEWEL
Jkt: 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7; Tr (i): 2, 3 and 4; (ii): 5, 6 and 7.

GETTING ONE'S WISH

Had no doubt we would be able to bring Deepti back: UP Warriorz

FILE PHOTO

After using the Right to Match option to bring back Deepti Sharma for ₹3.2 crore, the highest in Thursday's auction, UP Warriorz Director of Cricket Kshemal Waingankar said the franchise expected her to garner such a sum. "We had no doubt that we would be able to bring Deepti back. We expected her to fetch that price," he said.

LOCKED IN

WPL's fourth edition to be held in Navi Mumbai and Vadodara

FILE PHOTO

The fourth edition of the Women's Premier League will be held in Navi Mumbai and Vadodara, *in pic*. The tournament will begin at Navi Mumbai's D.Y. Patil Stadium on January 9. The final will be held at the Kotambi Stadium in Vadodara on February 5. The full schedule is likely to be announced on Friday.

MORE THE MERRIER

WPL's expansion is imminent, says Capitals co-owner Jindal

FILE PHOTO: SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

Delhi Capitals co-owner Parth Jindal said the addition of one or two new teams to the Women's Premier League (WPL) is imminent. "I am sure that the BCCI is planning on adding a team, and maybe with that, we move to the home and away format. That would be ideal for the growth of the WPL," he said.

AUCTION DYNAMICS

Sad that Healy won't feature in WPL-4, says Capitals coach Batty

FILE PHOTO: K. MURALI KUMAR

Delhi Capitals head coach Jonathan Batty attributed no franchise picking Australia's Alyssa Healy for WPL-4 down to auction dynamics. Healy was released by UP Warriorz before the auction. "On another day, she may have been picked up by one of the teams. It is sad that she is not going to be in the tournament," Batty said.

Warriorz buy Deepti for ₹3.2 cr; Healy goes unsold

The UP franchise also acquires the services of veteran pacer Shikha for ₹2.4 cr; MI spends ₹3 crore on Kiwi all-rounder Kerr; Capitals swoop in on South African star Wolvaardt; no takers for King

WPL AUCTION

Vivek Krishnan
NEW DELHI

When the five teams announced their retention list for the fourth edition of the Women's Premier League (WPL) on November 7, raised eyebrows at Deepti Sharma's exclusion by UP Warriorz seemed justified. Less than a week earlier, she had won the Player-of-the-Series award at the ODI World Cup after all.

At the mega auction here on Thursday for the 2026 edition, which will be held in Navi Mumbai and Vadodara from January 9 to February 5, Warriorz managed to get the all-rounder back by using the Right to Match (RTM) option but not without having to shell out ₹3.2 crore.

It made her the most expensive buy on Thursday, and the joint-second-highest in WPL auctions behind Smriti Mandhana's acquisition for ₹3.4 crore by Royal Challengers Bengaluru in the inaugural year. Capitals made the opening bid at her base price of ₹50 lakh, and raised the stakes to ₹3.2 crore once Warriorz decided to exercise RTM.

It was one of several noteworthy picks by Warriorz, armed with the highest purse of ₹14.5 crore, at the auction table. To reinforce the pace attack, they engaged in a fierce bidding war with RCB for Shikha Pandey, eventually forking out ₹2.4 crore for the 36-year-old. Spending ₹1.9 crore for Australia's Meg Lanning meant three of the five costliest purchases in this auction belonged to Warriorz. Lanning could be partnered at the top by 22-year-old Phoebe Litchfield, who fetched ₹1.2 crore on the back of her scintillating century against India in the semifinal of the ODI World Cup.

Top buys
Deepti Sharma (UPW), ₹3.2 crore
Amelia Kerr (MI), ₹3 crore
Shikha Pandey (UPW), ₹2.4 crore
Sophie Devine (GG), ₹2 crore
Meg Lanning (UPW), ₹1.9 crore

Top misses
Alyssa Healy (Australia)
Alana King (Australia)
Heather Knight (England)
Alice Capsey (England)
Vrinda Dinesh (India)

For Mumbai Indians and Delhi Capitals, the theme of the auction was continuity. Defending champion MI splurged ₹3 crore from a purse of ₹5.75 crore for the services of Amelia Kerr. The all-rounder was part of MI's title-winning squads in 2023 and 2025.

Capitals bought back left-arm spinner Sree Charani for ₹1.3 crore. Although she had played just two games last season, the 21-year-old from Andhra emerged as one of the brightest sparks of India's triumphant World Cup campaign with 14 scalps in nine games. Having lost out to Warriorz for former captain Lanning, Capitals swooped in on South African opener Laura Wolvaardt for ₹1.1 crore. Capitals co-owner Parth Jindal said the team will be led by an Indian.

"We went till where we could for Lanning. In Wolvaardt, we have a tremendous player who can fill her shoes. She is a great addition," said Jindal. As many as 67 players were sold and ₹40.8 crore was spent by the five teams. Curiously, Alyssa Healy and Alana King were among those unsold.

The dugouts:

Delhi Capitals: Shafali Verma, Annabel Sutherland, Jemimah Rodrigues, Marizanne Kapp, Shree Charani, Chinelle Henry, Laura Wolvaardt, Niki Prasad, Sneh Rana, Minnu Mani, Taniya Bhatia, Lizelle Lee, Nandani Sharma, Deeya Yadav, Lucy Hamilton, Mamatha Madiwala.

Gujarat Giants: Ashleigh Gardner, Beth Mooney, Sophie Devine, Georgia Wareham, Bharti Fulmali, Kashvee Gautam, Renuka Singh, Yastika Bhatia, Kim Garth, Danni Wyatt-Hodge, Anushka Sharma, Tanuja Kanwar, Rajeshwari Gayakwad, Kanika Ahuja, Titas Sadhu, Ayushi Soni, Happy Kumari, Shivani Singh.

Mumbai Indians: Harmanpreet Kaur, Nat Sciver-Brunt, Amelia Kerr, Hayley Matthews, Amanjot Kaur, S. Sajana, Shabnim Ismail, G. Kamalini, Saika Ishaque, Nicola Carey, Triveni Vasistha, Sanskriti Gupta, Nalla Reddy, Milly Illingworth, Poonam Khemnar, Rahila Firdous.

Royal Challengers Bengaluru: Smriti Mandhana, Richa Ghosh, Ellyse Perry, Lauren Bell, Pooja Vastrakar, Arundhati Reddy, Grace Harris, Radha Yadav, Nadine de Klerk, Shreyanka Patil, Georgia Voll, D. Hemalatha, Linsey Smith, Prema Rawat, Gautami Naik, K. Prathyoosha.

UP Warriorz: Deepti Sharma, Shikha Pandey, Meg Lanning, Phoebe Litchfield, Asha Sobhana, Sophie Ecclestone, Deandra Dottin, Kiran Navgire, Kranti Gaud, Pratika Rawal, Shweta Sehrawat, Harleen Deol, Chloe Tryon, Shipra Giri, Simran Shaikh, G. Trisha, Suman Meena, Tara Norris.

Talking points: Deepti's experience will be vital for Warriorz especially after Healy missed out. Shikha, Lanning, Devine, and Amelia Kerr were the others who struck it rich on auction day. FILE PHOTOS: SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR, SANDEEP SAXENA, EMMANUAL YOGINI & R.V. MOORTHY

Team India's Test fortunes at home: a sharp dip and myriad concerns

SA IN INDIA

S. Dipak Ragav
GUWAHATI

Indian Test cricket is at a crossroads. A team that used to pride itself for being among the best at home has now meekly surrendered twice in three series.

The way India capitulated across two games against South Africa - by 30 runs in Kolkata and 408 in Guwahati - will cause considerable concern, for it was both outbatted and outbowled by its opponent.

Just before the start of the home season, India indicated that it wanted to play on truer wickets. The plan, though, was jettisoned hastily after the West Indies stretched the second Test in New Delhi to day five.

It set in motion a series of events that culminated in a second series loss - the earlier one, a 0-3 reverse against New Zealand last year - in 13 months.

The decision to play on a square turner in Kolkata against the Proteas backfired, with uneven bounce and sharp turn making it a game of lottery. As the team batting second, India found itself on the wrong end of the stick.

One could cut some slack, given that Shubman Gill batted just three balls all match because of a neck sprain, an injury that also kept the skipper out of the Guwahati Test.

Still, the failure of the batting unit to chase 124 on the third day was the latest proof of India's waning competency against the turning ball.

Fallen giants: A lot was expected of Pant and the other Indian batters, but they failed to rise to the occasion. RITU RAJ KONWAR

Freedom Trophy in numbers

Batting	M	Inns	Runs	HS	Avg	100s/50s
Stubbs	2	4	163	94	54.33	0/1
Washington	2	4	124	48	31.00	0/0
Muthusamy	1	1	109	109	109.00	1/0

Bowling	M	Inns	Wkts	BBI	SR	5WI
Harmer	2	4	17	6/37	28.00	1
Jansen	2	4	12	6/48	28.41	1
Jadeja	2	4	10	4/50	50.70	0

If Kolkata was a game of margins, Guwahati laid bare deeper issues. After restricting South Africa to 247 for six on day one, Rishabh Pant's men let the game drift away.

The Indian tweakers looked flat when the pitch did not play tricks, and lacked the guile to create chances. Next, it was the batters' turn to disappoint. In reply to South Africa's 489, India, from 95 for one collapsed to 122 for seven.

Once a 288-run lead was conceded, the game was heading only one way.

Deficiency in skills aside, a broader discussion about selection is warranted. The team's obsession with all-rounders at the cost of specialist batters and the constant shuffling in the crucial No. 3 slot proved to be missteps.

Even as the India faithful focus on the home side's inadequacies, it would be a great disservice to underplay South Africa's achievement.

The inspirational Temba Bavuma led from the front in Kolkata with a brilliant half-century on a minefield. He played the perfect foil to Simon Harmer, a 36-year-old with only 12 Tests under his belt until then, who proved the difference with eight wickets in the contest.

In the era of the DRS, where spinners prefer to be quicker so that they can target the pads and stumps, Harmer showed that beating the batter in the air can still be a powerful weapon.

The South African spinners outbowled their Indian counterparts – 25 wickets to 21, with Harmer alone accounting for 17.

In early 2021, South Africa's cricketing strength came under the scanner after the team had slipped to seventh in the ICC rankings, having lost five of the seven series from July 2018.

Cyclic

However, Bavuma's men have shown that periods of success and failure are cyclic. South Africa is well and truly back on track.

India is on a downhill slope.

INBRIEF

Selvam nets the winner as India edges New Zealand

Selvam Karthi produced the winning goal as India defeated New Zealand 3-2 in the Sultan Azlan Shah Cup in Ipoh on Thursday. India will next play Canada on Saturday.

The results: India 3 (Amit Rohidas 4, Sanjay 32, Selvam 54) bt New Zealand 2 (George Baker 42 & 48).

Nagal bows out after losing to China's Yunchaokete Bu

India's top singles player Sumit Nagal bowed out of the Australian Open Asia-Pacific wild card play-off tournament after losing 6-2, 6-2 to Yunchaokete Bu of China in the quarterfinals at Chengdu in China on Thursday. The event offers the men's and women's singles winners wild card entry into main draw of 2026 Australian Open.

'Russians free to compete in judo "under national flag"'

Russian athletes are free to compete "under their national flag", the International Judo Federation (IJF) said on Thursday lifting the neutral status that had been imposed following the invasion of Ukraine in February, 2022. "The IJF Executive Committee has voted to permit Russian athletes to compete under their national flag once again, with anthem and insignia in place, beginning with the Abu Dhabi Grand Slam 2025," IJF said.

Jemimah to miss remainder of WBBL for Brisbane Heat

India's World Cup-winning hero Jemimah Rodrigues will miss the remaining WBBL season in Australia after she decided to stay back to support her national teammate Smriti Mandhana whose wedding got postponed. Jemimah had returned a few days back to attend Smriti's wedding and was scheduled to fly back to complete her WBBL assignment for Brisbane Heat. But Smriti's father took ill on the eve of the wedding and the ceremony got postponed. Jemimah then decided to be by Smriti's side.

Barcelona midfielder Lopez ruled out for two weeks

Barcelona midfielder Fermin Lopez has been ruled out for next two weeks with a calf injury. The 22-year-old will miss three La Liga games and is also in doubt for the Champions League clash at home against Eintracht Frankfurt.

SYED MUSHTAQ ALI TROPHY - FRIDAY'S FIXTURES

Elite: Group A (Lucknow): Kerala vs. Railways, Andhra vs. Odisha, Mumbai vs. Vidarbha, Assam vs. Chhattisgarh.
Group B (Kolkata): Hyderabad vs. Maharashtra, Bihar vs. Madhya Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir vs. Uttar Pradesh, Chandigarh vs. Goa.
Group C (Hyderabad): Haryana vs. Punjab, Baroda vs. Pondicherry, Himachal Pradesh vs. Services, Bengal vs. Gujarat.
Group D (Ahmedabad): Rajasthan vs. Tripura, Delhi vs.Tamil Nadu, Saurashtra vs. Uttarakhand, Jharkhand vs. Karnataka.
Plate (Pune): Manipur vs. Meghalaya, Mizoram vs. Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh vs. Nagaland.

LIVE TELECAST

SMAT: JioHotstar, 9, 11.30 a.m. 1.30 & 4.30 p.m.
Hockey: Junior World Cup, India vs Chile, SS Select 1 & JioHotstar, 8.30 p.m.
Formula One: Qatar GP (Sprint Shootout), F1 TV Pro, F1 TV Pro App & FanCode, 11 p.m.
Bundesliga: Sony Sports Ten 2 & LIV, 1 a.m. (Saturday)

Focus on Rohit & Co. as all is set for junior World Cup

The home team coached by Sreejesh will have to improve its penalty corner conversion; holder Germany and Sultan of Johor Cup champion Australia will pose strong challenge to the host

HOCKEY

K. Keerthivasan
CHENNAI

The biggest stage for the under-21 boys is here. So will be the pressure and expectations.

Of the 24 teams in the FIH junior men's hockey World Cup beginning in Chennai and Madurai on Friday, the host will, undoubtedly, be at the centre of attraction.

The two-time champion (2001 & 2016) can't complain much as it has had the best preparations coming into the competition.

As much as the Indian boys', their head coach P.R. Sreejesh, too, will be under the radar for what he does and what he doesn't.

In his first major assignment, the 37-year-old legendary India goalkeeper and two-time Olympic bronze medallist, appears ready for the challenge.

However, there are areas the Indian team should guard itself against. In the recently-concluded Sultan of Johor Cup in Kuala Lumpur, India could convert just eight of the 53 penalty corners it earned. Against Pakistan and Australia, it earned nine and eight PCs respectively, but converted only one.

Huge expectations: It will be a stern test for Sreejesh and his boys. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

Sreejesh said the focus at the camp in Chennai was more on defence. "It's an area where we gave more stress because we cannot concede a lot of penalty corners. In a tournament like this, every team carries a minimum of three to four drag-flickers, who are very good, which will be harmful for us."

Yes, seven-time champion Germany and former champion Australia are masters of the craft. In fact, in the previous edition in 2023, Germany's clinical conversion of PCs played a big role in its title-win.

Ian Grobbelaar is the star drag-flicker for Australia. He played a key part in the team's triumph in the Sultan of Johor Cup.

France, which ended runner-up in 2023, too, has prioritised penalty conversion this time. "We have a surprise or two in store for our opponents in PCs," head coach Matthias Dierckens told the *The Hindu*.

Argentina, a two-time champion (2005 & 21), will be no pushover. The way it played its three practice matches against India in Chennai proved it can push any team hard. Four-time medallist the Netherlands will be itching for a podium finish.

Belgium (runner-up in 2016 to India) and Spain (third place in 2005 & 2023) will be tough competitors.

Amidst all the hullabaloo, Rohit and Co. looks prepared to go the distance.

The groupings: Pool-A: Canada, Germany, Ireland, South Africa; **B:** India, Chile, Switzerland, Oman; **C:** Argentina, China, Japan, New Zealand; **D:** Belgium, Egypt, Namibia, Spain; **E:** Austria, England, Malaysia, the Netherlands; **F:** Australia, Bangladesh, France, South Korea.
Friday's matches: In Chennai: Argentina vs Japan (1.15 p.m.); New Zealand vs China (3.30 p.m.); Oman vs Switzerland (5.45 p.m.); India vs Chile (8.30 p.m.).
In Madurai: Germany vs South Africa (9 a.m.); Canada vs Ireland (11.15 a.m.); Spain vs Egypt (1.30 p.m.); Belgium vs Namibia (3.45 p.m.).

Exchanging pleasantries: Chile coach Amoroso and captain Richard with Rohit and Sreejesh. B. JOTHI RAMALINGAM

We have to respect Chile and play well, reckons Sreejesh

K. Keerthivasan
CHENNAI

Ahead of its opening match against Chile in the FIH junior men's hockey World Cup at the SDAT-Mayor Radhakrishnan Stadium here on Friday, Indian head coach P.R. Sreejesh said his team will not take the opposition lightly.

"Chile is good in attack and defence. We have to respect Chile and play well," he said.

Emotional moment

For Rohit, playing his final junior World Cup, will be an emotional moment.

"We have been waiting for this for a long time. We are ready," the 21-year-old captain, who was part of the the previous edition in 2023 where India finished fourth, said.

In its eighth appearance at the World Cup, Chile will hope to beat Oman or Switzerland and finish in the top-12.

"The average age of our players this time is 19. It's our dream to stay in second or maybe third place in Group (B). In the last World Cup, we finished 15th," said the team's head coach Matias Amoroso.

Chile had a preparatory camp in Oman where it played a couple of matches. "We were in Oman for a week playing three matches. We just had one practice match in Chennai with Bangladesh which we lost 0-3," said Amoroso.

Chile captain Felipe Richard said playing against the home side in front of a goodly crowd will be a great experience.

"Hockey is not popular in Chile but is growing. We expect a full crowd here. We will try to stay focused," he said.

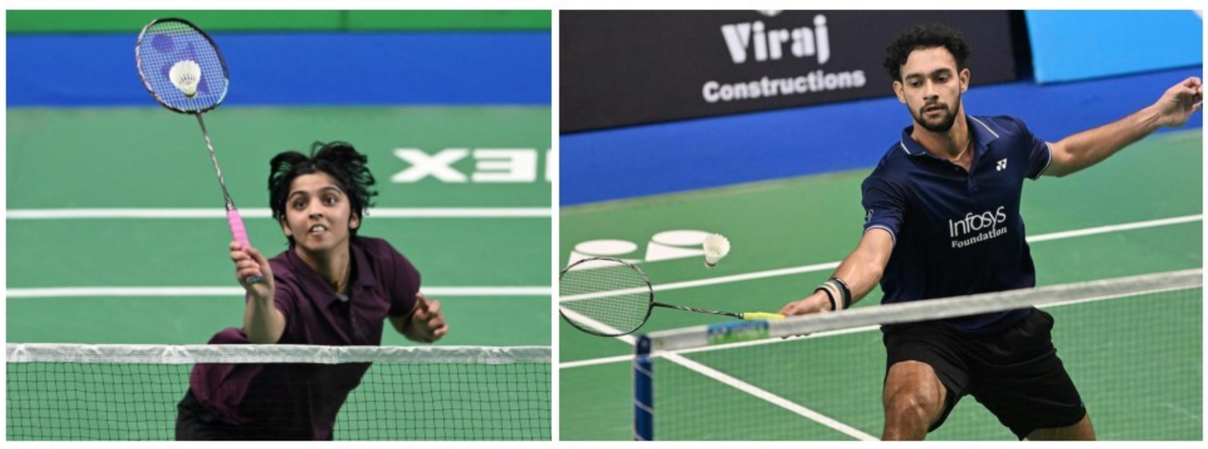
Tanvi shocks Nozomi; Manraj downs Prannoy on day of upsets

BADMINTON

Uthra Ganesan
LUCKNOW

On a day of upsets, Tanvi Sharma caused the biggest of them all, packing off former World champion Nozomi Okuhara in three games in the second round of the Syed Modi India International 2025 here on Thursday.

On the men's side, H.S. Prannoy's struggles continued as the 2023 World Championships bronze medalist was upset by youngster Manraj Singh in straight games, making his exit in the second round yet again. Prannoy, the highest ranked Indian in the fray, has failed to go past Round Two this season in 16 outings now.



Making progress: Youngsters Tanvi and Manraj capitalised on their respective opponent's errors to enter quarterfinals. SANDEEP SAXENA

The 16-year old Tanvi, runner-up at the recent Junior Worlds, was in her elements and capitalised on a tentative Nozomi's series of errors to storm into the quarterfinals of her second Super 300 event this year.

She had finished second at the US Open in June. Despite winning the first game 21-13 Nozomi, who had struggled in her opening match as well, failed to keep the momentum even as Tanvi grew in confidence with a mix of attack and defence.

Relying on cross-court shots to keep Nozomi the Japanese unsettled, the Indian kept drawing her opponent to the net and used sharp angles to snap up points and seal the match in three games one minute under an hour.

It was not the only upset of the day, though, with Isharani Baruah defeating higher-ranked Ukrainian Polina Buhrova in straight games.

Among men, fourth seed Kiran George lost to Jason Gunawan of Hong Kong 21-19, 21-16, Mithun Manjunath overcame Tarun Mannepalli in 73 minutes and the second seed pair of Pruthvi Krishnamurthy Roy and Sai Pratheek went down to Faiq Mohd. and Hong Quan Lok of Malaysia. K. Srikanth and Unnati Hooda, meanwhile, advanced into the last eight with easy half-hour wins against compatriots Saneeth Dayanand and Tasnim Mir respectively.

Top results (Indian unless stated): Men: Singles: Jia Heng Jason Teh (Sgp) bt Alap Mishra 21-15, 21-15; Jason Gunawan (Hkg) bt Kiran George 21-19, 21-16; Manraj Singh bt HS Prannoy 21-15, 21-18; K. Srikanth bt Saneeth Dayanand 21-6, 21-16.

Women: Singles: Isharani Baruah bt Polina Buhrova (Ukr) 21-15, 21-8; Unnati Hooda bt Tasnim Mir 21-15, 21-10; Tanvi Sharma bt Nozomi Okuhara (Jpn) 13-21, 21-16, 21-19; Suo Yun Shung (Tpe) bt Sakura Masuki (Jpn) 21-19, 21-15.

Down but not out, Srikanth determined to fight his way back to the top

Uthra Ganesan
LUCKNOW

K. Srikanth, World No. 1 at one point, is coming to terms with not being even the top Indian in the world rankings at the moment. Injury lay-off for more than four months last year followed by an extended break from the circuit for marriage meant the 32-year old has struggled for both form and fortune.

Not surprising, then, that he is taking it one match at a time on his return to the Syed Modi India international here this time around, insisting even comprehensive wins in the first two rounds against fellow Indians was not an easy outing.

"Everything worked well but I don't think there are any easy matches. I'm not really thinking too far into the tournament," Srikanth told the *The Hindu*.

Immediate goal: Srikanth believes in being in the present and doing the hard yards. SANDEEP SAXENA

Having gone down to as low as 82nd in May this year before clawing his way back up, he admitted it was not easy.

"The new BWF points system is a little complicated. And once you drop in rankings, it is very tough to get back because there are no qualifiers for the Super 1000s and 750s and those are the tournaments that give you the maximum points. Keeping that in mind, this tournament is really important, a good performance here is what will take me a little closer to entering into those 750s and 1000s," he agreed.

> The new BWF points system is a little complicated. And once you drop in rankings, it is very tough to get back

Long-term plans

In the long term, he still has the Asian Games next year on his radar but for now, he believes in being in the present and doing the hard yards to regain his position in world badminton.

"Ideally, I would not really want to play 100-300. I really want to be in the 750s and 1000s. I really don't want to go down again from here. I only want to go up," he declared.

Adrian Newey set to become Aston Martin's team principal

FORMULA ONE

Associated Press
LONDON

Adrian Newey will become Aston Martin's team principal next season as part of the Formula 1 team's restructuring.

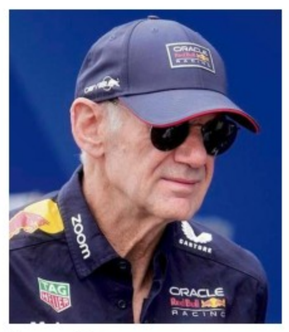
Newey committed his long-term future to Aston Martin in September 2024 after his departure from Red Bull sparked a bidding war for his services. He's widely considered the greatest technical mastermind of his generation.

Pressure has built on Andy Cowell, the current team principal and CEO, amid a disappointing season and reported disagreements with Newey, whose current role is managing technical partner.

After speculation linking former Red Bull team principal Christian Horner with the team resurfaced, Aston Martin announced on Wednesday that the 66-year-old Newey will step up to take charge of trackside operations from 2026.

Cowell will take on a new role as chief strategy officer.

"Over the last nine months, I have seen great individual talent within our team," Newey said.



Newey. AP

APPOINTMENT

भारतीय प्रबन्धन संस्थान तिरुचिरापल्ली
Indian Institute of Management Tiruchirappalli

ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE POST OF DIRECTOR

The Indian Institute of Management Tiruchirappalli is one of the premier world-class management education institutions with a focus on excellence in research, consultancy, training, and teaching.

Applications are invited from eligible candidates on the prescribed format for the post of Director of the Indian Institute of Management Tiruchirappalli in the state of Tamil Nadu. The Director will have a tenure of appointment for five years or till attaining the age of superannuation of 70 years, whichever is earlier. The detailed notification specifying eligibility conditions, prescribed format of application, and other details is available at the institute's website: **http:// www.iimtrichy.ac.in**

Last date for receipt of applications: December 29, 2025, by 5:00 PM IST.

इस विज्ञापन की पूर्ण जानकारी के लिए कृपया उपरोक्त वेबसाइट देखें ।

Panchayat Raj Engineering Division, Bagalkot

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No: EE/PRED/BGK/PB-1,2,3/5054/Tender/2025-26/3874
Date: 26-11-2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Two Cover System) (KW-1,2,3& 4 Bid Document)

Tender Called for the Work in the above notification through E-mode tendering is read as below.

Item rate Tender under two cover bid system is invited as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement ACT 1999 and Rules 2000 STANDARD BID DOCUMENT KW-4 through Public electronic Tendering System **(E-Tender from Class-1,2,3 contractor (Civil) registered in KPWD,** Who have got adequate financial resources, State of Technology, Suitable Construction equipments technical man Power & Sufficient past Experience for the following Work as per Schedule Given Below.

Tender Called for: 01) 2024–25ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿ / ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಪಂಗಡ ಕಾರ್ಯಕ್ರಮದಡಿ ಲೆಕ್ಕಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ: 5054–03–337–0–75–422/423 ರಡಿ ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯ ಬೀಳಗಿ ವಿಧಾನಸಭಾ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರಕ್ಕೆ ರೂ.100.00 ಲಕ್ಷ ಹಂಚಿಕೆಯಾಗಿರುವ ಅನುದಾನ 02) 2024–25ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಲೆಕ್ಕಶೀರ್ಷಿಕೆ: 5054 ರಡಿ ಸಾಲಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಸುರಿದ ಮಳೆ ಮತ್ತು ಪ್ರವಾಹದಿಂದಾಗಿ ಹಾನಿಗೊಳಗಾದ ಗ್ರಾಮೀಣ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಸೇತುವೆ ಮತ್ತು ಚರಂಡಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಕೈಗೊಳ್ಳಲು ಸನ್2025–26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಮುಧೋಳ, ಹುನಗುಂದ, ಬೀಳಗಿ, ಬಾದಾಮಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಜಮಖಂಡಿ ಉಪವಿಭಾಗದ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ

ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂ: **17347/CALL-2, 17514/CALL-3, 15085/Call-4, 14717/CALL-4, 19088/CALL-3, 19964**

ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಜಾತಿ ವರ್ಗದ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆಯ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: **15456/CALL-3**

ಪರಿಶಿಷ್ಟ ಪಂಗಡ ವರ್ಗದ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆಯ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: **14378/CALL-2**

ಇದ್ದು, ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ವಿವರ, ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ, ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರ ಅರ್ಹತೆ ವಿವರ, ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಮೊತ್ತ **(ರೂ.10.00 ದಿಂದ 150.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳ ಮಿತಿಗೊಳಪಟ್ಟು),** ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅರ್ಜಿಯ ಬೆಲೆ ಮತ್ತು ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ ಎಲ್ಲ ವಿವರಗಳು ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಇದ್ದಂತೆ. read as below.

Calendar of event

1) Request of blank Tender Documents and receipt of Completed Technical & Financial Bid through e-procurement Date: 26-11-2025 to 09-12-2025 at 5.30pm 2) Pre-Bid meeting Date:04-12-2025 at 11.00am 3) Opening of Technical Bid Date:11-12-2025 at 11.00 am 4) Opening of Financial Bid Date Technical Bid Approved.

Note: More details can be obtained through website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** or contact the below signed Office during the office hours. **Phone no: 08354-235042**

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
P.R.E. Division, Bagalkote.

DIPR/Bagalkote/410/Manipal/2025-26

Zilla Panchayath Kolar
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Panchayath Raj Engineering Division, Kolar-563101

Ph: 08152-222570, e-Mail: eepredkolar1@gmail.com

No: 12/2025-26 Date: 24.11.2025

Short Term Two Cover System Tender Notice
(Through KPPP e-Procurement KW-III)

On behalf of the Governor of Karnataka as per KTPP Act 2000 item rate tenders were invited two cover system (SBD) in the forms KW-3 through KPPP e-procurement from authorized PWD contractors registered in appropriate class for KW-3 Indent No: 19997, 19998 (SC Reserved) Indent No: 20008 (2A Reserved), Indent No: 19952, 19999, 20000, 20003, 20005, 20006 & 20009 (General category) Average amount put to tender is **Rs. 84.51 lakhs to Rs.84.70 lakhs.** (Bangarpet Taluk 10 Road works) The Contractor's are requested for participate in KPP Portal e-Tender through GOK website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** Prebid meeting schedule dt: 04.12.2025 at 11:00 AM in the undersigned office last date for submission of tender application and uploding tender forms through website from dt:26.11.2025 to 11.12.2025 up to 4:00 PM and date of opening of technical bids in KPP portal on date:12.12.2025 at 04:30 PM The eligible technically qualified contractors financial bids opening date:15.12.2025. The notification can be obtained from the KPPP e-procurement portal. Further details can be had from the above office on all working days in working hours. KPP Portal helpline No's for tender clarification with respect uploading and downloading you can contact: 91 8046010000 & +91 8068948777, +91 9240214000, +91 9240214001

Sd/- Executive Engineer, PRE Division, Kolar

DIPR/Kolar/R.O.No.374/KSMCA/2025-26

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that, our client viz., **Mr. Jose George S/o. Mr. K.J.Varkey and Mrs. Dolly Maria Mathew W/o. Mr.Jose George** residing at No.2, Sri.Malleswara Nilaya, I Cross, I Main, Maruthi Nagar, Madiwala, Bangalore – 560 068 had lost the Allotment Letter bearing No. BDA/: No.1187/AES-1/88-89, dated 26.12.1988.

Our client has already lodged the Police Complaint on 27.11.2025 bearing Lost Report No. 1927695/2025 in the jurisdictional Police Station. Any person/s having or claiming any manner of right, title & interest over the above said Property or on aforesaid mentioned original documents may intimate the same in writing to the under signed along with documentary evidence in support of their claim within 15 days from the date of this publication, failing which, it will be presumed that the said original document is lost.

If any person holding the said original deeds may kindly contact the undersigned at the earliest.

Dated this 28th day of November 2025 at Bangalore

M/s. LEGAL NEXUS
Advocates and Consultants
No. 428, First Floor, 24th Main, 25th Cross
HSR Layout, Sector 2, Bangalore-560102
Mobile: 9945688974; 6362102374

Govt. of Karnataka
Karnataka Residential Educational Institutions Society, Bengaluru
(An Organisation of Government of Karnataka)
No.8, MSB-1, 6th & 7th Floor, Karnataka Marketing Federation Building, Cunningham Road, Bengaluru-560052.

No: KREIS/EE-1/Tender-22/2025-26 Date: 25.11.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-Procurement Only)

The tenders have been invited for **Balance Works to Chalavadi Sabha Bhavana in Bengaluru, Construction of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Bhavana in Bengaluru, Construction of Hostels in the jurisdiction of KREIS (Tender Indent No. 799, 800, 801, 802 and 804)** through e-Portal vide website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on **25.11.2025.** The last date for receipt of tenders is **26.12.2025.** The details may be viewed at above website.

Note: Any changes in term tender notification will not be published in dailies. It will be published in e-Procurement portal only.

Sd/- Executive Engineer-1
KREIS

DIPR/CP/YC/4054/2025-26

KARNATAKA STATE POLICE HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)

#59, Richmond Road, (Gen K.S. Thimmaiah Road), Bengaluru-25
Phone: 080-25584102/25594893 Website: www.ksphc.org
e-Mail: eecontractksphc@gmail.com

No: EE/KSPH&IDCL/CNT/TND/04/2025-26/260 Date: 27.11.2025

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER

KSPH & IDCL invites online tender as per KTPP 2000 Act & as per Standard Tender Document through KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** for the **"Construction of 32 Nos Sl Quarters at Shivajinagar (Shifted form Vyalikaval), Bangalore Under Police Gruha-2025 (Phase-5) Scheme Package No.60 on Lumpsum, No Variations (Fixed Price), Contractor's Own Design Turnkey Basis - Conventional Method of Construction (Framed Structure) (Stilt+G+7 Floors)."**

Interested Contractors may participate in the tendering process. The details such as Tender fee, EMD, Tender documents ets., are available on KPP Portal from **28/11/2025 onwards.**

"KSPH&IDCL reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Tenders without assigning any reasons".

Note: Henceforth any changes / modifications in the tender will be updated only on KPPP.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer - Contracts

DIPR/CP/SPAN/4052/2025-26

ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ.

ನಂ:ದಾಮಪಾ:ಕಾಅ2.ಇ.ಟೆಂಡರ್:38:2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 24–11–2025

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

(ಕೆಪಿಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ)

2025–26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ನಿಧಿ.–01 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳು, 2025–26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ನಿಧಿ (3ನೇ ಕರೆ)–01 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ, ಒಟ್ಟು 02 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಕೆಪಿಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಸಿಂಗಲ್/ಡಬಲ್ ಕವರ್ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕರೆಯಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು/ಏಜನ್ಸಿದಾರರು/ ಸರಬರಾಜುದಾರರು ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟ್ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ನಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಾಗಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು, ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ವೆಬ್ ಸೈಟ್ www.davanagerecity.mrc.gov.in ರಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಕೆಪಿಪಿಸಿ ಸಹಾಯಕ ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: +91–8046010000 +91–8068948777 ರಿಂದ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು, ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ, ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಿಟ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ, ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ಮೊತ್ತ ಮತ್ತು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಿನಾಂಕಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆಪಿಪಿಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಗಮನಿಸುವುದು ಹಾಗೂ ಯಾವುದೇ ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಹೊರಡಿಸಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

ಕ್ರಮ ಸಂ 01, 02ರ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ:– (1) ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ.ಯಲ್ಲಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾದ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 27.11.2025 (2) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ & ವೇಳೆ : 04.12.2025 ಸಮಯ : 16.00 (3) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸುವ ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ವೇಳೆ : 04–12–2025 ಸಮಯ : 17.00 (4) ಟೆಂಡರ್/ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : 06–12–2025 ಸಮಯ : 11.00

ವಾಸಾಇ/ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ/509/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025–26

ಸಹಿ/–ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು,
ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ದಾವಣಗೆರೆ

SANJAY GANDHI INSTITUTE OF TRAUMA AND ORTHOPAEDICS
(Government of Karnataka Autonomous Institute)

Byrasandra, Jayanagar East, Bengaluru - 560 011 Ph: 080-26564516, 26562500 Grams: SITO Fax: 26565222 E-mail: sitodirector@gmail.com

No. SGITO/e-Tender/Bus(48)Cadaver lab(247)/2025-26 Date:25.11.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPP Portal only)

Sanjay Gandhi Institute of Trauma & Orthopaedics, Byrasandra, Jayanagar East, Bengaluru - 11 invites tender from the eligible tenderers through the KPP portal of GOK for The Following:-

SL No.	Description	Last date and time for tender submission through e-portal
1	Planning, Designing, Development, Operation, Maintenance and Management of Cadaver Lab at SGITO on Public Private Parternship (PPP) Model	29-12-2025 upto 4:00 pm
2	Procurement of College Bus	15-12-2025 upto 4:00 pm

(1) The Tenderers can download the documents from: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/** on or after **28.11.2025** and the last date for submission of completed tenders through kpp portal as per the prescribed date.
(2) The Tender Accepting Authority reserves the right to accept / reject or cancel tender without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/-
Director
Tender Inviting Authority

DIPR/SI/4050/2025-26

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, BINDHU Kllathupurath Thami, w/ o; Ajith Kumar r/o; No.23, 5th Main, Thayappa Garden, Bilekahalli, B G Road, Blr–560076. Have changed my name as Bindhu.

I, AJITH Peroth Vasu, s/o; Late Vasu P, r/o; No.23, 5th Main, Thayappa Garden, Bilekahalli, B G Road, Blr–560076. Have changed my name as Ajith Kumar.

I, Shivaraj C.N S/o Late Nagappa R/o Chowdeshwarihalli Village, Kootagal Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk, Bengaluru, have changed my name to Shivaraju for all purposes

CHANGE OF NAME

I, RAMNIWAS Saran dependent of Moti Ram Saran, R/at : SMQ-6/7, Air Force Station, Yelahanka, Bangalore-560063 have changed my name from Ramniwas Saran to Ramniwas vide affidavit dated 24/11/2025 sworn before Notary H. Sridhar Rao, B'luru.

I, JOSHI Parmeshwar Kashiram, S/o Kashiram, R/at :Quarter No.64, STC, BSF Yelahanka, Bangalore-560064 have changed my son's name from Kunal Joshi to Kunal Parmeshwar Joshi vide affidavit dated 26/11/2025 sworn before XXXVIII Addl. Chief Judicial Magistrate,Bengaluru.

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Call: 9632781499

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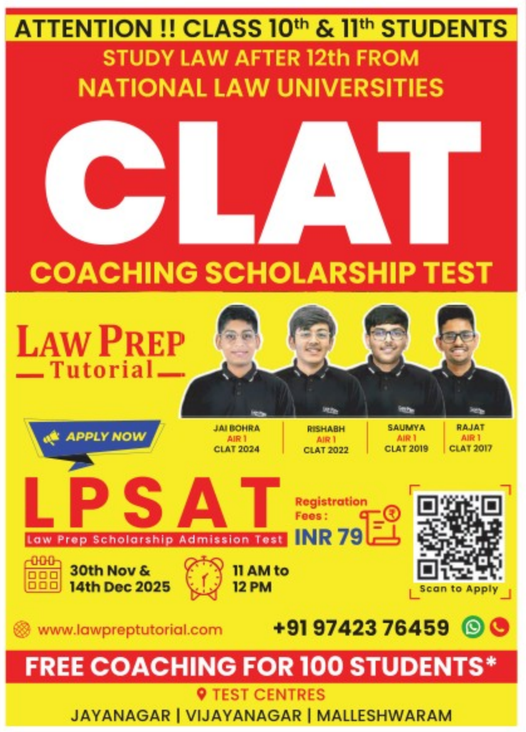
GENERAL



रजिस्ट्री सं. डी.एल.- 33004/99 REGD. No. D. L.-33004/99

भारत का राजपत्र
The Gazette of India

सी.जी.-डी.एल.-अ.-05052025-262886
CG-DL-E-05052025-262886

असाधारण
EXTRAORDINARY
भाग II—खण्ड 3—उप-खण्ड (ii)
PART II—Section 3—Sub-section (ii)
प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

सं. 1934] नई दिल्ली, बृहस्पतिवार, मई 1, 2025/वैशाख 11, 1947
No. 1934] NEW DELHI, THURSDAY, MAY 1, 2025/VAISAKHA 11, 1947

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPECIAL LAND ACQUISITION OFFICER AND COMPETENT AUTHORITY & ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER
Sagar Sub Division, Sagar
No PUBLIC NOTICE

In exercise of the powers under section 3D (1) and (2) of National Highways Act 1956 (48 of 1956) (herein after referrred to as the said Act) with it amendment from time to time, the Central Government vide their Gazette Notification S.O. 5223 (E) Dated: 17-11-2025 have required the lands indicated in the schedule hereunder for widening of National Highway NH-69 in the stretch of land from Km 278.00 to Km 286.40 (Tumkur-Honnavara section) in the District of SHIVAMOGGA in the State of KARNATAKA.

Under the provisions of Sub Section (1), (2), (3) and (4) of section 3G of the said Act the public notice is hereby issued to the land owners and intrested persons in such land to appear in person or by an agent or by a legal practitioner on the following date and time before the Special Land Acquisition Officer and Competent Authority, Assistant Commissioner, Sagar Sub Division, Sagar to state the nature of their respective intrest in such land along with the copies of the documents such as 1) Original records, 2) Sale/ Partition / Other deeds of title 3) R.T.Cs 4) Copy of Mutation register 5) Tax paid receipts 6) Encumbrance certificate and any other relevant document.

Sl No	Name of the taluk	Name of the village	Date, time & Place
1	Sagar	Kotwalakatte	11-12-2025 (11.00 am to 01.00pm) Assistant Commissioner office, Sagar Sub Division, Sagar

Sd/-
Special Land Acquisition Officer &Compitent Authority,
Assistant Commissioner, Sagar sub Division, Sagar.

MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 17th November, 2025

S.O. 5223(E).— Whereas by the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, 1978(E) Dated:01/05/2025 , published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Subsection (ii) issued under sub-section (1) of section 3A of the National Highway Act, 1956 (48 of 1956) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government declared its intention to acquire the land specified in the Schedule annexed to the said notification for building (widening / four laning etc.), Maintenance, management and operation of NH206 in the stretch of land from Km. 278.00 to Km. 286.40 (Tumkur - Honnavara section) in the district of SHIVAMOGGA in the state of KARNATAKA;

And whereas the substance of the said notification has been published in "The Hindu" dated 15/05/2025 , "Vijayakarnataka, Kannada prabha" dated 15/05/2025 ; under sub-section (3) of section 3A of the said Act;

And whereas the Competent Authority has received objections filed under Section 3-C, considered and settled the same appropriately;

And whereas, in pursuance of sub-section (1) of section 3D of the said Act, the competent authority has submitted its report to the Central Government;

Now, therefore, upon receipt of the said report of the competent authority and in exercise of the powers conferred by the sub-section (1) of section 3D of the said Act, the Central Government hereby declares that the land specified in the said Schedule should be acquired for the aforesaid purpose;

And further, in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 3D of the said Act, the Central Government hereby declares that on publication of this notification in the Official Gazette, the land specified in the said Schedule shall vest absolutely in the Central Government, free from all encumbrances.

SCHEDULE

Brief description of the land to be acquired, with or without structure, falling within the stretch of land from Km. 278.00 to Km. 286.40 (Tumkur - Honnavara section) of NH-206 (New NH-69) in the district of SHIVAMOGGA in the state of KARNATAKA

State: KARNATAKA			District: SHIVAMOGGA		
Sl. No.	Survey/Plot Number	Type of Land	Nature of Land	Area (in Hectares)	Name of Land Owner/ Interested Person
1	2	3	4	5	6
Taluk: Sagar					
Village: Kotwalakatte					
1	101-265-265-1363	Private	Dry	0.000494	Nasrulla Khan S/o Umar Khan
2	12-346-312	Private	Dry	0.0016048	G M Channappa bin Mahadevappa
3	129-162-403	Private	Dry	0.01465	Jamathulla Muslim Samaja
4	176-176	Private	Dry	0.0142231	Ganapathiyappa
5	177-177	Private	Dry	0.0068783	Shaila H M
6	178-178-179-179	Private	Dry	0.0010392	Vijayarathna
7	180-180	Private	Dry	0.0008571	SS Jagannath
8	192-355-325	Private	Dry	0.0020514	GK Sumithra C/o Lt Shridhar Rao, G S Sandesh Rao
9	193-354-324	Private	Dry	0.0023249	Syed Abbas S/o Syed Ahmed
10	194-353-323	Private	Dry	0.0025696	Syed Iqbal S/o Syed Ahmed Sab
11	195-352-322	Private	Dry	0.0013057	Nagaraj, Mukesh, Vinayaka
12	196-351-321	Private	Dry	0.0012119	Shashikala Ramachandra
13	197-350-320	Private	Dry	0.0036091	Ashoka S/o LT Sham Rao
14	198-348-318	Private	Dry	0.0036091	Syed Ibrahim S/o Syed Iqbal
15	199-349-319	Private	Dry	0.0060729	AV Hiriyanna
16	23-3-157	Private	Dry	0.000488	S Krishnamurthy S/o Sitharamayya
17	23-359-325	Private	Dry	0.0356919	Hampayyana Mata veera Shaiva Samaja
18	242-271-347/ 1-317/1	Private	Dry	0.002628	Rehana Banu, Syed saq Ahamed, Syed aziz, Nisha Begam
19	264-264-1362	Private	Dry	0.000494	Fahimuddin MS S/o Meer Shahabuddin
20	361-327	Private	Dry	0.0002484	Shantamma
21	41-45-45	Private	Dry	0.0121	Muslim Burial Ground
22	5/3	Private	Dry	0.0050526	Vijaya W/o Basavaraj Gowda, Prashanth KB S/o Basavaraj Gowda
23	5/4	Private	Dry	0.0215484	Vijaya kumar Patil S/o SS Patil
24	5/5	Private	Dry	0.015	KT Kiran
25	54-501	Private	Dry	0.006996	Shalini Chandrashekar
26	76-240-240-1345	Private	Dry	0.000187	B S Girish S/o Shivabasappa
27	81-332-300	Private	Dry	0.0164831	Hampayyana Mata veera Shaiva Samaja
28	86-90-86	Private	Dry	0.0005893	Smt. Vani K.R W/o Dr. Subrhmanya
29	W17-04-1694	Private	Dry	0.006648	Veerendra Kumar
			Total	0.1866558	

[F. No. RW/NH/206/KNT/2020/21/921/3D]
SHAIKH AMINKHAN, Director

India's below-par performance an aberration and nothing more

The host nation's players perform poorly at the sport's global showpiece as none reaches the semifinal; top three seeds Gukesh, Arjun and Praggnanandhaa fail to shine; the silver lining in an otherwise forgettable tournament are Pranav and Karthik

CHESS WORLD CUP

P.K. Ajith Kumar
ARPORA (GOA)

On the final night of the Chess World Cup at Resort Rio, there were, so to speak, two Viswanathan Anands: the legend in person, and the winner's trophy that has FIDE named after him, shortly before the tournament kicked off nearly a month ago. And that was just about the Indian presence in the final.

There was no Indian in the semifinal, in fact. For a country that is used to winning just about every title in international chess - the Olympiad for both men and women, World championship, the women's World Cup, the World junior title - that is a disappointment. And even more so as the host of the tournament in which all the top three seeds were Indians.

Among them, the second seed Arjun Erigaisi travelled farthest. He reached the quarterfinals rather comfortably, and had looked extremely well prepared and very solid. But he went down to China's Wei, who played even more solidly and went on to contest the final.

And Arjun needed to finish inside the top three so that he could qualify for the Candidates, which he is going to miss yet again after coming so close. While for Gukesh, it proved yet another eminently forgettable outing after becoming the youngest World champion last year. Praggnanandhaa, also, wasn't just the brilliant performer he has been for most of the year.

There were 24 Indians in all. Among them, V. Pranav looked really impressive. The World junior champion reached the fourth round and showed once again that he was a serious talent. Karthik Venkataraman also reached the last 32, quite a performance from someone who began as the 109th seed.

Higher seeds like Vidit Gujrathi, Aravindh Chithambaram and Nihal Sarin, made early exits. Still, given the knock-out format of the tournament, there is no need to read too much into India's below-par show. It was more of an aberration.

So near, yet so far: Arjun missed a spot in the Candidates once again. FIDE

Manasi Joshi keen on reclaiming World title

PARA BADMINTON

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Former World para badminton champion Manasi Joshi is gearing up for a hectic season with her sights firmly set on a strong showing at the World Championships in February, where she hopes to reclaim the gold medal she won in 2019.

The 36-year-old has accumulated seven medals in the tournament, including back-to-back bronzes in the SL3 women's singles category over the last two editions.

"Normally, every year we have one big tournament. But post COVID, the whole cycle got messed up. In 2025, we have the World Championships in February and the Asian Games in October. So next year is going to be extremely hectic," said Manasi.

Manasi has been in good form in the build-up, claiming a gold and bronze in women's doubles and mixed doubles with Thulasimathi Murugesan and Ruthick Raghupati at the Japan International.

She also bagged a gold and bronze in mixed doubles (SL3-SU5) and women's singles in Australia, besides a silver and bronze in Indonesia.

"After the Paralympics, my ranking had dropped because I didn't play many tournaments. So I had to push hard to upgrade my world ranking and also stay in the top 3 in India," said Manasi, who took up para badminton after an accident in 2011 which led to amputation of her leg.

Sindarov foresees an India-Uzbekistan rivalry over the next decade

P.K. Ajith Kumar
ARPORA (GOA)

Javokhir Sindarov just couldn't stop smiling. Or laughing.

The 19-year-old's excitement on Wednesday night was understandable. He had just won the Chess World Cup, after beating Wei Yi in the final that had gone to the nerve-wracking tie-break, after both the classical games were drawn at Resort Rio.

His Chinese rival, seeded seventh (that is nine slots above him), had displayed strong nerves, and strong chess too, right through the gruelling knock-tournament. But, a terrible error in the second tie-break game gave Sindarov a golden chance, which he wasn't going to miss, having done that in the first. The Uzbek teen, who became a Grandmaster at 12, is the youngest champion in World Cup history. But, he has already set bigger goals.

Pleased as punch: Sindarov with his grandmother in Goa. FIDE

"I am very happy for sure, but it is only the start of my chess career, and I need to cross 2750 Elo points first," Sindarov said. "And of course it is my dream to win the Candidates tournament and thus play for the World title."

And if does that, his opponent will be D. Gukesh. Before that at the Candidates, he could be playing another Indian R. Praggnanandhaa, who is most likely to qualify as the winner of the FIDE Circuit.

"The Indian players grew in strength very fast," said Sindarov. "We have strong players back in Uzbekistan, too. Yes, I think India and Uzbekistan will be fighting for the Chess Olympiad and a lot of other tournaments in the next 10 years."

India has been a happy hunting ground for Sindarov. He was part of the Uzbekistan team that won the Chennai Olympiad in 2022 with a performance that far exceeded the expectations. Little wonder, he is looking forward to coming back to India. "I will be playing at the Global Chess League and Tata Steel Chess India (over the next couple of months)," he said.

Arteta hails Arsenal's win against Bayern

FOOTBALL

Agence France-Presse
LONDON

Mikel Arteta praised his Arsenal players after they outplayed Europe's "best team" Bayern Munich 3-1 on Wednesday to pull clear at the top of the Champions League table.

"I have to praise our players because I think they had an incredible match against, in my opinion, the best team in Europe," said delighted Arsenal manager Arteta.

Arteta said it would be useful to seal qualification for the last 16 of the Champions League quickly but warned there were tough challenges ahead.

Arsenal could be on the brink of something special after coming up short in the past few seasons.

Bhaskar to take on Manudev for the honours

Sports Bureau
BENGALURU

B. Bhaskar will meet I.H. Manudev in the final of the State-ranking senior men's billiards tournament on Saturday.

The results (semifinals):
B. Bhaskar bt Sasha Sambi 4–3 (52-150, 151-95, 81-150, 151-101, 65-150(96), 150-124, 150-80).
I.H. Manudev bt M.L. Lakshman 4-2 (122-151, 136-150, 151-47, 152-73, 151-95, 151-50).

Ruth stars for SW Railway

Ruth scored 20 points as South Western Railway defeated Rajmahal BC 61-43 in a women's semifinal league match of the State Association Cup basketball tournament here on Thursday.

The results:
Women (semifinal league):
Beagles BC 51 (Sanjana 12) bt Mounts Club 29 (Nidhi 11).
South Western Railway 61 (Ruth 20) bt Rajmahal BC 43 (Aadhya 15, Nikitha 15).
Men (quarterfinals):
Bank of Baroda 104 (Arvind 14, Dinesh 13) bt Vivek's SC 54 (Sanjay 20).
S. Blues 90 (Benjamin 20, Adithya 17) bt Beagles 74 (Achintya 22, Ravi 22).
Young Orion's SC 114 (Arjun 22, Shashank 18) bt MNK Rao Park 89 (Ajin 41, Faaz 18).
DYES Bangalore 100 (Manoj 27, Nithin 10) bt GST & Customs 93 (Samyam 27, Vishnu 24).

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2	235	Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IITB)	81.4
3	236	Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur (IIT-KGP)	81.3
4	241	University of Delhi	80.9
5	305	Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM)	77.3
6	310	Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur (IITK)	77
7	**352**	**Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT)**	**74.9**
7	352	Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee (IITR)	74.9
9	462	Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore	70.5
10	467	Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal	70.3

Source : https://www.topuniversities.com/sustainability-rankings

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